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Grinevskiy Addresses Vienna CSCE Talks

LD1207183189 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Vienna July 12 TASS—The second session talks on confidence- and security-building measures in Europe drew to a close here today. It showed that some common ground has shaped in the positions of participants. At the same time, there remain fundamental differences in the approaches of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and NATO countries to the content of the new set of confidence-building measures.

If socialist states consistently favor the curbing of the military activity, the spread of confidence-building measures to the airforce and navy, greater openness and predictability in military matters, NATO countries continue to disagree with such an approach. They try to limit the sphere of the application of confidence-building measures to land forces.

Speaking about the essence of the work done, Oleg Grinevskiy, ambassador at large who heads the Soviet delegation at the talks, noted that many things deserved a positive assessment. All groups of countries laid down their positions and made the analysis of the partners' stances. A lively debate ensued, which was proceeding in a proper form and on the whole was free of propaganda encrustations. In this we see one more manifestation of the new quality of the European dialogue, about which Mikhail Gorbachev spoke in Strasbourg, Grinevskiy said.

At the final session, the delegations of neutral and non-aligned states submitted a joint document containing their proposals on the new set of confidence-building measures. The document is based on a broad approach to problems of building trust in the whole of Europe. Its provisions aim to have confidence-building measures to cover all of the military activity of the participating states—at land, sea and in the air. They underline the need to develop and adopt measures to limit the scope of military exercises.

As the group of neutral and non-aligned states, which traditionally have an important positive role to play in the CSCE process, presented its proposals, the work of the Vienna forum entered a qualitatively new stage. There are enough ideas and proposals on the negotiating table now so as to get down to elaborating the basis of generally acceptable accords with account of the interests of all participating states, political observers believe.

The talks will resume early in September.

Zholkver Comments on Results

LD1207225789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] The second round of the talks on measures of trust and security in Europe finished today in the Austrian capital, Vienna. Here is a "Latest News," with our political observer Aleksandr Zholkver at the microphone:

[Zholkver] To begin, I will remind you that the current round of the Vienna talks, in which the representatives of 33 European states and also the United States and Canada are taking part, has been continuing for more than 2 months. The beginning of this great and important work inspires hope. The first steps in the sphere of real disarmament in Europe have been taken. The United States has destroyed the Pershings, which it had sited in the FRG and which could reach our territory within 7-8 minutes. Our country, in its turn, has already eliminated more than half of its medium- and shorter-range missiles. Let us add to this that both the Soviet Union and other European socialist countries are reducing their conventional weapons and armed forces. The USSR Supreme Soviet, for example, has just passed a decision on releasing students from military service.

At the same time, the situation in the world remains complex and contradictory. The increase and modernization of weapons is not ceasing. Under these conditions, the Vienna talks on measures of trust and security acquire a special significance. I remind you that the socialist countries have submitted a proposal in Vienna that envisages a radical reduction of troops and arms. It is proposed to establish for the Warsaw Pact and NATO states their identical maximum level [predelnyy uroven], and moreover at a significantly lower level than at the present time. At the last NATO session, proposals were put forward that meet the positions of the socialist countries halfway. Of course, all of this must be done with strict international verification.

I note in connection with this that the leaders of the Warsaw Pact countries, at their recent meeting in Bucharest, spoke out in favor of widening measures for notification, observation, and restriction [ogranicheniye] to all types of military activities including the air and naval forces. It is proposed in particular to create a center for the reduction of military danger and the prevention of a sudden attack in Europe. It is thought that the recent incident with our fighter plane that crashed in Belgium once more confirms the necessity for such measures. At the meeting in Bucharest, the hope was expressed that the NATO countries would take countersteps in the reduction of armed forces, arms, military spending, and military activities. Let us hope that the summer holidays at the Vienna talks will be for their participants not just a time for temporary rest but also a time to consider and prepare new initiatives to strengthen the essential mutual trust and security in Europe.

Chernyshev Optimistic

LD1207133689 Moscow TASS in English 1303 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

The Warsaw Treaty members' political consultative committee has reaffirmed their readiness to do everything towards early positive results at the Vienna talks on conventional armed forces in Europe, convinced that given a constructive attitude on the part of all the negotiators, initial accords can be reached as early as in 1990.

This confidence has primarily been prompted by the fact that it has proved possible to launch a bilateral process of bringing closer the positions of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty on cuts in conventional armaments and armed forces.

This has manifested itself in a series of proposals by Warsaw Treaty countries and the latest proposals of U.S. President George Bush, supported by Washington's allies in the North Atlantic bloc.

The very approach of either side to the other's initiatives seems to have markedly improved. NATO now takes the Warsaw Treaty stand at the talks quite seriously and considers it when drawing up its own proposals.

Socialist countries' initiatives are no longer greeted with suspicion and criticism out of hand, but draw serious and specific responses.

Unlike the past, we seek to analyse the North Atlantic alliance's proposals more objectively as well.

The Soviet leadership, for instance, has expressed satisfaction that the United States and NATO have agreed, at long last, to reduce troop strengths in Europe and extend offensive arms cuts to cover their own systems rather than just those of the Warsaw Treaty.

As a result, the negotiating positions of the two sides in Vienna are now much closer, although there are still differences on quantitative ceilings on some categories of arms and troop strength.

There is still much work ahead and both sides need to apply serious extra effort. In particular, they will have to come to terms on air force cuts.

The Warsaw Treaty, just as envisaged by the talks' mandate, favours scaling down the most destabilising systems—tactical strike aircraft, while NATO is out to spread reductions to all land- based aircraft, including such defensive systems as interceptor fighters, so as to confront us with the need to scrap more planes.

In contrast to the Warsaw Treaty, the North Atlantic alliance does not provide for equal combined limits on troop strength for each military-political bloc, suggesting instead equality only between the armed forces of the Soviet Union and the United States outside their national territories.

These, as well as some other issues, await a solution.

Nonetheless, possibilities have emerged for productive work and rapid headway at the talks.

The Warsaw Treaty sees the immediate goal of the Vienna negotiations in achieving equal combined limits on troop strengths and key classes of arms in Europe and its individual regions as a result of the very first accord.

The limits should be much lower than the minimum levels existing on either side at present. This would ensure radical and mutual troop and weapon cuts and solve the problem of imbalances in conventional arms.

Chemical Defense Battalion Leaves Polish Barracks

LD1107145989 Moscow TASS in English 1437 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw July 11 TASS—By TASS correspondnet Andrey Pershin: Soldiers of a separate chemical defence battalion of the Northern Group of Troops, headquartered in Wroclaw, have left their barracks. Representatives of work collectives, the city public, veterans of the Sceond World War, and soldiers of the Polish Army came to bid farewell to the Soviet soldiers.

Gold badges, the prestigious awards of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society, were presented to the Soviet officers and men in a ceremony.

The withdrawal of a part of Soviet troops from Poland is continued in stages and according to the agreements reached. A separate motor vehicle battalion was the first to withdraw from Swidnica last June, then a training tank regiment was moved out of Strachuw in two stages, and now is the turn of chemical troops to return to the homeland.

A helicopter and anti-aircraft defence regiments are planned to be moved out of Poland before the end of this year.

Gen Chervov Comments on Bucharest Pact Summit

AU1207125189 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 11 Jul 89 pp 1, 4

[Report on interview with Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, "chief of a department of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff," by NOVOSTI special correspondents Olga Trofimova and Oleg Zhadetskiy "at the request of ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME": "With Responsibility for the Present Day and the Future"—date and place not given]

[Text] Representatives of NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY, at the request of ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME, approached Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, an expert in the Soviet delegation to the conference of the Political Consultative Committee held in Bucharest and chief of a department of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, for his impressions of the work and the results of this forum of the Warsaw Pact member states:

[Chervov] This is now the fourth year in which I have happened to be present at conferences of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee.

I will briefly recall the previous meetings: the 1986 Bucharest meeting, when the program was put forward for deep-going radical reductions of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe; the 1987 Berlin meeting, when the famous defensive doctrine of the Warsaw Pact was adopted, which in fact prepared the ground for restructuring the bloc's armed forces; and the 1988 Warsaw meeting, which proclaimed the appeal to all countries in the world on environmental protection. In other words, on each occasion when they meet, the leaders of the socialist "seven" outline new routes for advance.

The same thing is characteristic of the 1989 Bucharest meeting. Here we should point out three features. First, a profound, scientifically based analysis was made of the situation in Europe and throughout the world. Second, the course was set toward further perfecting the political—and I stress the word "political"—nature of the Warsaw Pact and the appropriate mechanisms for cooperation. Third, and finally, views were exchanged on the internal political situation in the Warsaw Pact countries and on the reforms in progress in these countries in the different fields of life.

Nonetheless, the chief emphasis at the Bucharest meeting was laid upon issues of disarmament and security. In the meeting's documents a kind of balance was drawn up on what had been done following the Budapest program for strengthening peace and stability in Europe and establishing relations of trust and cooperation between the countries of East and West.

Let us return to the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty, which made a breakthrough toward real nuclear disarmament. Almost one-half of all the arsenals of these missiles have been eliminated, and the two sides are strictly observing the clauses of the treaty.

The work on concluding the agreement on a 50-percent reduction of strategic nuclear arms was defined as a most important goal. Great hopes were voiced regarding the Vienna talks of the 23 and the 35 states, whose results must represent a turning point in European history, as well as hopes for concluding a chemical weapons convention and halting nuclear tests.

While noting the constructive steps made by the West regarding the Warsaw Pact, including those made in Vienna, the participants in the Bucharest conference expressed concern over the standpoint of the NATO leadership in Brussels. Reference is made to their reliance on the policy of strength and the policy of "nuclear deterrence," that is, everything that is in complete contradiction with the new realities.

I personally regard as very important the conclusion reached in Bucharest that there is now a possibility of supplementing the 1963 treaty on banning nuclear tests in three environments with a fourth environment, namely underground. In this context the experiments carried out in the USSR at the beginning of July on remote verification of nuclear weapons carried on board ships (not submarines), with the joint participation of Soviet and U.S scientists, deserve attention.

I will briefly explain what these experiments were about. A Soviet device was tested which, mounted on a helicopter, is able to detect the presence or otherwise of nuclear weapons in a given objective at a range of up to 200 meters. I will remind you that the Soviet leadership invited Washington to take part in testing such a device, but received a refusal. The U.S. officials stated that this is impossible. Accordingly, the experiment had to be carried out at the scientist level.

However, I think that there is another reason concealed here. Normally, when their ships enter port, the Americans do not declare whether they have nuclear weapons on board. The existence of this device will evidently make them change their tactics. It is hardly worth mentioning that now a reliable device has been provided for verification, including verifying sea-based nuclear cruise missiles.

In highlighting the most important aspects of the 1989 Bucharest meeting, I will also mention the following. I refer to the idea of creating a European security center, in which envoys from all the 35 countries taking part in the Helsinki process might be represented. Initially this center would function in the information sphere, but later its functional tasks might be extended.

Another exceptionally important feature is the determination of the socialist states to push ahead the work on creating an all-embracing system of international security, especially for all-European security. The urgency of this task is evident. In our interconnected world, shaken by sharp conflicts and potentially explosive hotbeds, European affairs cannot exist only for their own sake, unconnected with the other regional problems.

A further important feature of the 1989 Budapest meeting is the full support given to the initiative put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev in Strasbourg regarding tactical nuclear weapons. If it becomes clear that the NATO countries are prepared to hold negotiations on this problem, the USSR might (after agreement with its allies) immediately undertake further unilateral reductions of its tactical nuclear weapons in Europe.

Finally, the Bucharest meeting confirmed once again the unanimous course toward new limitations on the strengths of armed forces and military expenditures, reduced volumes of military production, and conversion (changeover) of the military industry to civilian needs.

These are the aims and plans of the Warsaw Pact, which is approaching the present and future of Europeans and all the world's inhabitants with a full sense of responsibility.

Reaction to Pact Session

PM1207132589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jul 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS roundup of world reaction to Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee meeting in Bucharest: "Milestones"]

[Excerpt] 10 Jul—The mass media and prominent statesmen and politicians in many countries point out that the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee [PCC] meeting in Bucharest and the brief meetings between the supreme leaders of the fraternal parties were milestone events. Foreign comments stress that the PCC meeting communique set out a whole program for improving international relations and outlined concrete ways of implementing the "all-European home" idea, developed by the Soviet leader during his recent visit to France. M.S. Gorbachev's interview on Soviet Television provoked broad interest in the international public.

Bucharest—ROMANIA LIBERA writes that "the PCC's proposed measures accord with the vital interests of all mankind and are an important contribution to the cause of peace and socialism."

The historic significance of the meeting between the alliance states' top representatives consists in the fact that its participants underlined the need to take new steps in ensuring disarmament and security in Europe, a Romanian Radio commentator pointed out. Our continent needs new relations based on complete equality, which will promote every people's socioeconomic progress and strengthen cooperation and unity among European states irrespective of their social system.

Sofia—A Bulgarian Television observer stressed that it is hard to disagree with M.S. Gorbachev's opinion that the meetings in Bucharest and the decisions adopted there are a watershed in the life of the socialist community and that the documents adopted in the Romanian capital take account of all Europeans' interests. The Soviet leader's statements to the effect that in the process of improving the international situation, disarmament, and strengthening security the socialist countries' military-political alliance will be transformed into a political-military union and that we will as a result embark on resolving the fundamental task—of disbanding the military blocs—aroused tremendous interest throughout the world. Now it is up to NATO.

Budapest—I. Eszy, Hungarian deputy foreign minister, stressed that the PCC meeting just ended in Bucharest demonstrated a diversity of approaches to the question of how to develop socialism, while consonant opinions were voiced on the question of developing East-West relations, uniting Europe, and making progress in disarmament. The statement "For a Stable and Secure Europe," adopted at the meeting, is of tremendous significance. This document is couched in constructive terms.

Belgrade—Judging by the documents adopted in Bucharest and also by the speeches made by the participants in the PCC meeting one can conclude that, despite the objective differences, a clear unity of viewpoints was achieved there on questions of future cooperation, a TANJUG report says. The general opinion is that the meeting was substantive and constructive and enabled its participants to better acquaint themselves with the processes taking place in each of the Warsaw Pact countries.

Beijing—The Bucharest meeting is of great importance for securing further arms reductions and strengthening the cause of peace throughout the world, a RENMIN RIBAO report indicates.

In another item pegged to the results of the Soviet-French summit dialogue, this newspaper writes the following: "Although M. Gorbachev only spent two days in Paris, a great deal was achieved. Everything attests that Soviet-French cooperation has entered a period of rapid development and reflects the shift from protracted division and confrontation in East-West relations to rapprochement and cooperation."

Bonn—"According to FRG Foreign Minister G.-D. Genscher," West Germany's ZDF channel points out, "the statement adopted by the participants in the PCC meeting constitutes a drawing together of Eastern and Western concepts, above all on questions of the future of Europe and the resolution of problems of disarmament and arms control." Another leading West German television channel, ARD, cites the minister's words to the effect that the FRG leaders, like the Warsaw Pact leaders, believe that it may be possible in 1990 to embark on the initial accords at the Vienna talks on conventional arms in Europe.

Washington —Proceeding from the premise of the concept of mutual and indivisible security upheld by M.S. Gorbachev, the participants in the Bucharest meeting resolutely advocated safeguarding that security by maintaining military equilibrium at a minimal level sufficient for defense and ruling out the possibility of mutual attack, ABC TV's leading news program pointed out. [passage omitted].

Petrovskiy on Socialist Officials Minsk Meeting

LD1207142689 Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Minsk July 12 TASS—Deputy foreign ministers of socialist countries, conferring in the capital of Belorussia, are examining the possibility of coming forward with a new joint initiative aimed at consolidating the positive changes taking place at the U.N., USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy told TASS.

The Soviet diplomat said a lively exchange of views on principal items to be put on the agenda of the forthcoming 44th session of the United Nations General Assembly is under way.

"It has been determined so far that 149 items will be put on the agenda. Much food for thought is being given by the recent statement adopted by the Bucharest meeting of the Warsaw Treaty Political Consultative Committee (PCC). "The proposals set out in the statement will be considered at the United Nations, beginning with widely examining the question of developing the U.N. peace-making potential and ending with such specific issues as monitoring crises and conversion," Petrovskiy went on to say.

He pointed out that diametrically opposite opinions are also being voiced during the discussion in Minsk, which is regarded by Western politicians as the threshold of a split.

"But I think that genuine unity does not rest on a lack of ambiguity or in the uniformity of abolsutely all opinions, as was hitherto reckoned. Real unity, to my mind, is achieved through diversity of approaches with a common understanding of principal goals.

"The situation both at the meeting and at the United Nations is characterised precisely by the unity of understanding the main and principled matters. The difference of approaches exists only with regard to ways for a solution to this or that problem.

"It was not a split but consensus and unity of socialist countries that made it possible to launch transformations at the U.N. We raised the question of creating a new system of comprehensive security which called for a greater role and effectiveness of the United Nations, "Petrovskiy emphasised.

He pointed to the indissoluble connection between the Minsk meeting and the PCC meeting which had put forward a whole system of measures in the business of ensuring disarmament and security in Europe.

Bogachev Criticizes UK's Younger's NATO Remarks

LD1207122289 Moscow TASS in English 1204 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev:

British Defence Secretary George Younger has lately become known as a committed crusader against new political thinking in international relations.

He welcomes any new barriers to nuclear disarmament, while dismissing socialist nations' initiatives to lower military confrontation in Europe, including their unilateral cuts in armed forces, as "attempts to undermine NATO unity".

Speaking in an interview with a Canadian news agency on Monday, Younger declared that the West must resist Soviet attempts to split and weaken NATO. As he didn't offer any specific recommendations on how to organise this kind of resistance, one can only guess whether he meant undercutting existing arms control agreements, scuttling talks that are under way or provoking conflicts to impede the normalisation of the military-political situation in Europe.

He is seriously worried about the fate of his beloved nuclear deterrence concept since the world public has become increasingly aware that one needs to deter not socialist countries but NATO advocates of preparing nulcear war either in its "limited", European version or on a global scale.

As new political thinking gains ground in the world, it sometimes brings unexpected results.

Zealous champions of a continued arms race camoured about a "Soviet military threat" only recently. They are no less zealous today in attempting to convince public opinion of a "peace offensive by socialist countries".

World Labor Confederation Holds News Conference

18070327 Moscow TRUD in Russian 5 Jul 89 p 3

[Article by N. Shevtsov: "World Confederation of Labor Delegation Visit to Moscow"]

[Text] Yesterday, a press conference of the delegation of the World Confederation of Labor was held in Moscow. Confederation Chairman Juan Tan made a statement to the assembled Soviet and foreign journalists. He said that the first official visit of the World Confederation of Labor leadership is devoted to familiarization with important changes which are occurring in various spheres of life in our country and the participation of trade unions in them. We have come here, he said, in order to ascertain whether perestroyka and the policy of glasnost enjoy the support of Soviet working people and the trade unions. At the same time, the visit by World Confederation of Labor leadership is a reflection of the significant changes which are under way in the contemporary world, including the international trade union movement.

The speaker praised highly the results of a meeting between the delegation and CPSU Central Committee Secretary and Politburo Candidate Member G.P. Razumovskiy, and talks with the leadership of the AUCCTU [All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions], in the course of which issues of the contemporary international situation and that in the world trade union movement were discussed, as well as the opportunities for expanding dialogue between the Soviet trade unions and the trade union centers belonging to the World Confederation of Labor.

World Confederation of Labor Secretary General Jan Kulakowski, who spoke next, dwelled on the activities and goals of the Confederation, which together with the World Federation of Trade Unions and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions makes up three of the world's largest international trade union centers. He noted that the World Confederation of Labor pays much attention to defending the rights of workers and trade union freedoms, to the struggle against the foreign debt of developing countries, and in favor of disarmament and the implementation of conversion. In response to a question by journalists, J. Kulakowski noted that the World Confederation of Labor leadership is very much interested in the development of a system of self-management at Soviet enterprises.

World Confederation of Labor Deputy Chairman Emilio Maspero talked about preparations for the forthcoming international conference on the issues of foreign debt which the Confederation is sponsoring this year in Venezuela.

World Confederation of Labor Deputy Chairman (Willi Peyrens) said that in the course of the talks held with the AUCCTU leadership the need for expanding mutual contacts was confirmed, primarily in the sphere of vocational training and retraining of working people and participation by trade unions in price control. The issues of expanding the role of the World Confederation of Labor and the World Federation of Trade Unions, and the carrying out of joint actions by them in international organizations, primarily the International Labor Organization, were also discussed. The issues of trade union activities at enterprises created jointly by capitalist and socialist countries were discussed in detail.

Yakovlev Writes on 'New Foreign Policy'

PM1307091089 Madrid DIARIO 16 in Spanish 6 Jul 89 p 23

[CPSU Politburo member Aleksandr Yakovlev article: "The New Soviet Foreign Policy"]

[Text] The concept of the "new political thinking" includes several aspects of foreign relations. First, I would like to point out that the concept reflects the realities of our time. If not now, then some day, we would inevitably reach the realization that it is impossible to continue the arms race and the line of confrontation within the context of the nuclear threat, since ultimately this leads to disaster.

The objective analysis of the situation that has emerged in the world suggests the conclusion that it is necessary to build a realistic foreign policy. It is necessary to create a new environment and to learn to live under conditions of peace. A unique moment in the history of mankind seems to have arrived now: Those called upon to establish peace on this planet are responding to the real opportunities.

The gulf between word and deed is lessening, and there is every basis for hoping that they will fully coincide. In my view, this is the very essence of the new political mentality: The analysis of contemporary conditions is prompting mankind to adopt a new way of looking at life and trends and at the possible consequences of the actions of various individuals, states, governments, parties, and so forth.

Does the theory of the supremacy of universal values imply an abandonment of the traditional view of relations between the USSR and the West? I believe that no class interest is higher than that of mankind's survival. This interest is shared by peasants, workers, and intellectuals. This is why we say that we have discovered an idea than can unite everyone—the idea of mankind's survival.

This is menaced both by the nuclear threat and by others, such as the threat to the environment, for instance. Unless we now make joint efforts, things could go badly for all of us. This is another idea within everyone's grasp.

At the same time, it would be logical to ask: Does this rule out the existence of interests of separate social groups, classes, and states? No, of course there will always be both social and ethnic contradictions, but no class interest is higher than that of preserving life on this planet.

There have always been, and there will always be, contradictions, but the historical process must be channeled so as to exclude military confrontation. This is why, when we talk about class interests, we use the concept of "freedom of social choice for all peoples," in line with the new political thinking. By choosing a path, the people are giving material form to their interests. And these interests must be respected if the choice—whatever it may be—really was made by the people.

One of the components of the new political mentality is the idea of the "common European home." The general development trend is to create all kinds of transnational groupings. In Europe's case, this process will culminate in 1992 in the emergence of a single superstructure. Borders will become open and human exchange more active. The obstacles and prohibitions that hinder contacts between people will gradually disappear; mistrust will eventually give way to trust. Then we will probably see different political and psychological configurations in Europe. However, there is no point in trying to rush history, which always evolves naturally. We need a Europe of stability, a Europe of cooperation, a Europe of peace.

There is of course a correlation between disarmament and the problems of the Soviet economy, though our disarmamrnt initiatives cannot be explained solely by economic difficulties. It is a very complex matter, though one thing is already clear: We made a very grave mistake when we allowed ourselves to become involved in the arms race. This policy—based on the principle of "missile for missile, tank for tank, rifle for rifle, and ship for ship"—was crazy.

We were not the inventors of the arms race: We have always had to respond. As for the idea of parity, we used to interpret it somewhat mechanically. Obviously a far smaller quantity of weapons than we have now accumulated would be enough to exterminate the whole of mankind.

It is also obvious that disarmament entails huge benefits for our people, as it does for the American people or the peoples of Western Europe. Armament, on the other hand, is entirely useless: It entails a budget deficit, a vast foreign debt, and the need to expend intellectual efforts on inventing and producing weapons designed to kill. We must stop living like cavemen and abandon the big stick policy, to which end it is necessary to demilitarize people's attitudes.

The USSR has announced a unilateral reduction of 500 warheads from the tactical nulcear misiles deployed in Eastern Europe. We have also suggested starting negotiations on eliminating such weapons. For unknown reasons, the West is evading the proposal.

The elimination of such weapons would constitute real progress toward establishing peace in Europe and would provide us with new opportunities for encouraging cooperation, while at the same time freeing people's minds from the huge psychological pressure exerted by nuclear weapons.

Observer Pustov Reviews European Defense Posture

PM1007180089 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jul 89 First Edition p 3

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA observer Vasiliy Pustov article under the rubric "The World Today: Problems and Opinions": "Europe Facing a Choice"]

[Text] The most important events of the week confirmed yet again that Europe is facing a choice: to follow the path of rapprochement between its two opposing parts—

the socialist and the capitalist—and of building the common European home, or to follow the path of preserving the division and confrontation.

The first path is spoken of in great detail in M.S. Gorbachev's speeches during his official visit to France and the documents adopted at the conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee just held in Bucharest. This is reported in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. It is now evident that the provisions of exceptionally great importance that are formulated in the Soviet leader's speeches in France and in the Political Consultative Committee documents remain and will clearly remain for a long time to come at the center of the attention of the international public, and are under discussion by political and state figures in the countries of our own continent and others.

Against this background, some very important aspects of the energetic activity of the champions of what the West calls "little Europe" have been, so to speak, overshadowed. That is why, as M.S. Gorbachev noted in Paris, people in the Soviet Union, observing with interest the processes of West European integration, ask themselves two questions: Will this lead to the greater militarization of Europe through the pooling of the EEC countries' military efforts, and also, will the "single European market" of 12 West European countries be too self-contained?

These are very real fears, and Western political circles recognize them. Former FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt gave this definition of the nature and consequences of the current integration processes: In this century the European Community has to enter into competition with the USSR, the PRC, and the United States in the military sphere, and with the United States and Japan in the economic sphere.

Let us leave on one side for the moment the intensifying economic competition between Western Europe and the United States and Japan, as well as its intention to compete with America and China in the military sphere. These could both be subjects of discussion in themselves. Especially since America remains the basic, leading ally of the West European countries, which, moreover, envisage the future "little Europe" first and foremost as the "European prop of NATO." As for China, which is in another part of the world, for all its global significance in the political, military, and other respects, I suppose it interests the West European capitals primarily from the viewpoint of the resolution of the problems of the Asian and Pacific region.

At present we are far more interested in plans whose implementation would certainly touch on questions of the security of the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies. And these plans should be judged not by words, but by concrete action. Much is being said and written in the West about the current talks in Vienna of the 23—on conventional armed forces in Europe—and of the 35—on military confidence-building measures. The resolution of other very important problems, such as the possibility of beginning talks on tactical nuclear weapons in Eruope, is made dependent on their successful completion. But at the same time the NATO countries sometimes take actions that can do nothing to promote either arms reduction or confidence-building on the continent. Rather the reverse. Examples are, so to speak, plain to see.

Last week a meeting of the defense ministers of the 13 European NATO member countries belonging to the so-called European Programming Group was held in Portugal. At the meeting a decision was adopted on the joint implementation of a new, long-term program of technological research for military purposes, "Euclid." It provides for research in such priority spheres of nonnuclear arms as microelectronics, the creation of radar stations, composite materials, "artificial intelligence" systems, submarine detection systems, aircraft, and so forth. In their final communique the ministers confirmed their countries' readiness to create a "European market in defensive arms."

A statement by British Defense Secretary G. Younger, who chaired the meeting, is noteworthy in this connection: The European Programming Group countries intend to assure the United States that by stepping up cooperation in the military sphere they do not intend to "develop protectionism." In other words, they are taking care in good time to ensure that the interests of arms producers on the two sides of the Atlantic do not come into conflict. And as if to confirm this thesis, there is a report that the governments of the United States and Britain have given military manufacturers in their countries the "green light" to begin cooperation in the development of a new nuclear missile with which it is planned to equip American F-15 and F-111 aircraft stationed in Europe, as well as British "Tornados." And yet this is precisely the sphere of arms—assault aircraft—in which the NATO countries already have significant superiority.

At the same time activity is being stepped up with a view to strengthening the Western European Union (WEU). There are many contradictions in the vague formulations and appeals of the WEU leaders. On the one hand, they note the improvement in East-West relations, acknowledge the need for a reduction in armed forces and armaments in Europe, and speak approvingly of the positive changes in the USSR and other socialist countries. On the other hand, as if to negate what they themselves have said, they continue to whip up fears over the Soviet military potential, and keep on shouting about the "Soviet military threat."

And on this false basis, far-reaching military actions are discussed and planned. Among them are the expansion of military-political and military-technical cooperation within the WEU framework, specifically: the creation of a West European space reconnaissance agency and a committee of chiefs of staff, the formation of multinational units and formations following the example of the Franco-West German joint brigade, the concentration of efforts to coordinate military activity "outside European territory," the maintenance of the NATO countries' naval superiority, and so forth.

It is well known that the stumbling block in relations between the two parts of Europe and between the Warsaw Pact Organization and the North Atlantic alliance is still the NATO strategy of nuclear deterrence. Founded on fear and intimidation, it stipulates not only the refusal to eliminate tactical nuclear weapons in Europe, but even their further qualitative improvement, which is passed off as so-called "modernization." And that would certainly be fraught with very undesirable consequences for the nuclear arms reduction that is already in progress in Europe.

The Soviet Union's position, enshrined legislatively in the resolution of the Congress of USSR People's Deputies, is clear and concrete: We are in favor of a nuclear-free world and the elimination of all nuclear weapons by the beginning of the next century. It is time to begin talks on tactical nuclear systems. Nuclear deterrence [sderzhivaniye] should give way to military-political restraint [sderzhannost].

It should be noted that in the European countries, which do not intend to wage war on one another, there is a growing awareness of the need for talks on the "third nuclear zero." In the desire to reverse the antinuclear trend, its opponents are resorting to the old propaganda cliches that the USSR, nurturing hegemonist plans, seeks to sow discord among the NATO countries and separate the United States from Europe.

Paradoxically enough, all this is happening at a time when, under the influence of the new political thinking, the period of the "cold war," with its mutual fears, is receding into the past. When contacts are being established or restored between the armed forces of Warsaw Pact and NATO countries, and when useful, constructive dialogue is being established between their leaders. When, in the conditions of the stabilization of the international situation, people's minds and hearts are increasingly won over by the idea of building a common European home, an idea that gives priority to common human values and interests. "The East," the West German weekly DIE ZEIT notes, "has already formulated a concept for the new era of which we are on the brink. But the West does not even have a concept. The North Atlantic alliance recently decided to follow its old path—to increase military expenditure by 3 percent annually. Obviously all that the alliance can do jointly is to arm itself, it cannot formulate a new policy."

Speaking in Paris, the Soviet leader spoke of the main challenges of the modern era—the "Bastilles" that mankind still has to storm. But it should not be forgotten that there are still forces in the world that are reluctant to abandon the gloomy past and present. The French monarchists' threat is symbolic in this respect: on 14 July, the 200th anniversary of the storming and taking of the Bastille prison by the Parisians, to erect a guillotine in the Place de la Concorde and "behead" Marianne—the symbol of republican France. Whether the provocative plan will be foiled—that is the concern of the French. But to ensure the taking of today's "Bastilles" that stand in the way of the resolution of European and world problems and the strengthening of peace and security—that is the cause of all the peoples.

United States & Canada

Reportage on Bush Visit to Poland, Hungary

Later Events in Hungary Visit

PM1207165989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent F. Lukyanov dispatch under the rubric "Panorama of International Events": "G. Bush in the Hungarian Capital"]

[Text] Budapest—After ending his visit to Poland, U.S. President G. Bush arrived in Hungary for a 2-day official visit. The presidential Boeing-707, coming from Gdansk, landed at Budapest airport in heavy rain. The same conditions prevailed during the official welcoming ceremony for President Bush in Kossuth Square in front of the Parliament, where despite the weather thousands of Budapest inhabitants had gathered. The President was greeted by Bruno F. Straub, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic; R. Nyers, chairman of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP]; K. Grosz, general secretary of the MSZMP; and M. Nemeth, chairman of the Council of Ministers. G. Bush's planned address to the inhabitants of Budapest had to be cut to a minimum because of the rain.

There is no need to mention that tremendous significance is being attached to this visit both in Hungary and abroad. Almost 2,000 (a record number!) representatives of various newspapers, journals, television, and radio from dozens of countries have gathered in Budapest to cover the first visit by a U.S. president to Hungary in the whole history of bilateral relations.

During the last 3 to 4 years relations between Hungary and the United States have undergone considerable development, especially since K. Grosz' visit to the United States in July of last year. In Hungary the process of improving relations with the United States is invariably linked with the fruitful development of ties between the USSR and the United States. Attempts to depict G. Bush's current visit as an allegedly damaging factor in respect of relations between Hungary and its allies are regarded as unfounded here.

As G. Horn, the Hungarian foreign minister, said at the opening of the international press center at the "Vigado" concert hall, the U.S. President is familiar with European realities, including East European realities, and has no intention of provoking a clash between Hungary and the USSR. G. Bush expressed himself in the same vein prior to his trip to Europe in an interview given to Hungarian journalists when he said that he does not want to complicate the Soviet leader's life with his trip to Poland and Hungary by driving a wedge between the allies, especially since M.S. Gorbachev's recent visits to the FRG and France have shown that the USSR has no intention of drawing these countries away from the United States or evoking anti-American sentiments there.

...A day before the visit, on Monday, many thousand inhabitants came out into the city's streets to form a "human chain" between the U.S. and Soviet embassies and to present the two countries' ambassadors with an appeal for peace. Afterward, schoolchildren carrying Hungarian, Soviet, and U.S. flags ran a torchlight relay race.

The relay race and the "human chain" are evidence of Hungary's appreciable role in building bridges of cooperation between East and West in the construction of the "common European home." However, there are still quite a few obstacles on the path toward normal East-West relations, including relations between Hungary and the United States. To cite but one example. On the very eve of the President's visit to Hungary the U.S. Congress declined a proposal to grant Hungary most-favored-nation status in trade for a period of 5 years. In his address to journalists G. Horn refuted numerous rumors and suggestions which have surfaced even in the press to the effect that G. Bush is bringing with him a "mini-Marshall plan"—$2-3 billion to be injected into the Hungarian economy. There can be no question of this, G. Horn stressed. What we are seeking is the extension of most-favored-nation status in trade with Hungary for a period of 5 or more years (up to now Hungary is forced every year to wait for an extention of this status for the next 12 months). Naturally, the needs for imports of technology also require a review and relaxation of the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls [COCOM] rules.

On Tuesday night, greeting the U.S. President at a reception in Parliament, R. Nyers, chairman of the MSZMP, said that G. Bush's visit is taking place at a time when Hungary is going through an important and crucial stage in its history connected with the further democratization of society, the transition to political pluralism, the establishment of a rule-of-law society, and the development of economic reform.

In a reply speech G. Bush noted that great changes are taking place here at the center of Europe. In the President's opinion, the consensus as regards the necessary thrust of the reforms and the switch to a new social model is constantly gaining in depth in Hungary today. Speaking about Hungary's development prospects, the U.S. President declared that in the future he sees a country which is at peace with itself and occupies a fitting place in a renascent, free, and undivided Europe.

Events of Hungary Visit Described

LD1207210289 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Budapest July 12 TASS—U.S. President George Bush, now on an official visit here, today met with Rezso Nyers, chairman of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, and its General Secretary Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Council of Ministers Miklos Nemeth, president of the National Assembly of the Hungarian People's Republic Matyas Szuros.

At a news conference held here it was announced that the U.S. President was informed in detail about the process of economic and political reforms in Hungary. The Hungarian leaders stressed that the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic believe it is very important to ensure a peaceful character of the transitional period and, proceeding from that, are striving to build partnership relations with new parties and movements.

The Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, which initiated changes and continues leading the process of reforms, should play its part in the government which is to be formed after the forthcoming elections in Hungary.

The president has been told that destabilisation in the Hungarian People's Republic may have an unfavourable impact on the situation in the whole of the East-European region and also the Soviet-American relations.

At the negotiations it was noted that the Hungarians themselves should solve their own problems. But at the same time Hungary counts on international support and international experience and is willing to learn from others.

The U.S. President said that his country intended to support the Hungarian reforms, but is seeking to avoid even a semblance of its interference. The United States will willingly put at Hungary's disposal its experience that can be used in reforming the system of political and economic institutions.

At the news conference it was noted that the American President repeatedly stressed at the negotiations the U.S. interest in success of perestroyka which is under way in the Soviet Union. He is confident that improvement of the Soviet-American relations will favourably influence the allies of the two world powers and promote a more rapid advancement of the processes of reforms in Eastern Europe.

On the same day George Bush addressed students and teachers of the Budapest Karl Marx Economic University. He said that the Soviet Union's decision on a partial witdrawal of troops from Hungary would help overcome the division in Europe. The two powers can overcome through joint efforts the spirit of the policy of deterrence and leave the Cold War times behind. Reduction in the level of military confrontation in Europe is one of the key stages on this path. The asociated questions can be very complicated, but we are invariably working towards an agreement, reliable and historical by its significance, that would be aimed at strengthening stability in Europe and lessening the danger of war, he said.

The U.S. President stressed that at the forthcoming Paris summit meeting of leaders of the main capitalist countries he would make proposals of support for the reforms in Poland and Hungary. He would seek U.S. congressional approval for a special fund to be formed to enliven private economy in Hungary.

The president proposed that American-Hungarian cooperation in science, technology and culture be invigorated and expressed the hope for a further favourable development of relations between the two countries.

George Bush held negotiations with Minister of State Imre Pozsgay. He also met with representatives of Hungarian opposition organisations.

Negotiations were held between U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn.

Arrival in Budapest Reported

LD1107202589 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Budapest July 11 TASS—U.S. President George Bush arrived in Hungary for an official visit today. At the Budapest Ferihegy Airport he was met by President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic Bruno F. Straub, and other officials.

Hungary is part of the American President's European tour which has already taken him to Poland. He will also visit France and the Netherlands.

In Hungary George Bush will meet Chairman of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Rezso Nyers and its general secretary Karoly Grosz, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Miklos Nemeth, President of the National Assembly Matyas Szuroes and Minister of State Imre Pozsgay.

According to the Hungarian press, the visit is bound to promote a deepening of bilateral relations in economy, trade and other areas, and expansion of Hungary's international relations.

In his interview published in the Hungarian press on the eve of the visit, the U.S. President stated that he received with optimism the changes taking place in East-European countries and the Soviet Union and wished them success.

The U.S. President is expected to deliver a lecture on East-West relations at the Karl-Marx Budapest Economic University and meet representatives of the opposition forces.

Bush Leaves Gdansk for Budapest

LD1107164389 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Warsaw July 11 TASS—U.S. President George Bush left Gdansk for Budapest this afternoon upon completion of his official visit to Poland.

At the airport he was seen off by Wojciech Jaruzelski and other officials.

Outlines Economic Plan for Poland

OW1307111789 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1040 GMT 11 Jul 89

[From the "World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] Hello, comrades. The European tour of the U.S. President, George Bush, is a central topic of foreign mass media organs. His first stopover is Poland.

Together with Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski, Bush attended a joint session of the Sejm and Senate. They both addressed the deputies and senators and emphasized that Poland is now experiencing historical changes. President Bush stated that economic reforms and restoring the economy cannot be implemented without sacrifices. He said that Poland's fate is in Polish hands; that Poland is entering a period of great difficulties; and that changes in Poland are being viewed with sympathetic understanding.

Bush said that the United States will not sit twiddling its thumbs but will help Poland. He outlined a six-point plan. In particular, the plan envisages granting $100 million for development of the private economic sector and deferring the repayment of Poland's debts to Western creditors; the country's debts total $40 billion. It is also envisaged that aid will be increased, including technical aid, to both Poland and Hungary. This will be considered at the forthcoming Paris meeting of leaders of the seven largest Western countries.

Hungary is the next stopover of the Bush tour. This will be the first ever visit to this country by an American president. Before leaving for Budapest, the U.S. President will visit Gdansk and will have dinner with the Walesa family—the family of Lech Walesa, leader of the Polish Solidarity Trade Union.

Visit to Poland Reported

PM1207131789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jul 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "G. Bush in Poland"]

[Text] Warsaw, 11 Jul—A stable, democratic, and secure Poland is not just a domestic Polish affair but also a sensitive barometer of the European situation and an important factor in the entire range of East-West relations, W. Jaruzelski, chairman of the Polish Council of State, has said. He was speaking at a dinner in honor of U.S. President G. Bush, who is on an official visit to Poland. Stable and deep-rooted peace can only be a common cause and the fruit of far-sighted ideas and patient dialogue, the speaker continued. The great powers bear a special responsibility for the future of Europe and the entire world.

The improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations is strengthening the foundations of peace worldwide and having a favorable impact on the entire range of international relations, the Polish leader noted. The recent Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee Conference reaffirmed the firmness of new thinking and the resolute desire for detente and disarmament. We want the United States and its allies to assess these intentions positively and move toward them. Poland has greeted with due attention and interest the disarmament proposals put forward by the United States at the NATO summit.

Recalling the approaching anniversary of the invasion of Poland by Hitler's Germany, the speaker stressed the need for future generations to remember the exceptional destruction and suffering brought about by war. This should be stressed all the more sharply since claims continue to be put forward calling into question the borders that came into being as a result of World War II.

Expressing thanks in his reply speech for his warm welcome, G. Bush noted the great progress achieved over the past 2 years in many areas of U.S.-Polish relations: in the sphere of culture, trade, consular ties, science, and human rights. Going on to assess highly the major steps taken by Poland along the path of change, he said that the implementation of reforms is a difficult process; there are no easy answers or free solutions. But there is a firm basis for hope for the future—not only for the new processes in Poland, but also for the start of European reconciliation and for Europe's becoming united, free, and at peace with itself. Wishing Poland success on the path of transformations, the speaker said that the United States has outlined ways of helping Poland so that it can help itself. Both countries' governments have a considerable amount of work to do in this area.

G. Bush visited Gdansk today. He was met by W. Jaruzelski on Westerplatte Peninsula, where the first salvoes of World War II were fired and where the men of the small Polish garrison heroically repulsed the attacks of superior forces of Hitlerite aggressors. There was a warm conversation with war veterans and the defenders of Westerplatte. The leaders of the two countries laid wreaths at the monument to the heroes of Westerplatte.

The U.S. President also laid wreaths at the monument to the Gdansk shipbuilders who died during the tragic events of 1970. He met with L. Walesa, chairman of the "Solidarity" trade union. At the end of his official visit to Poland G. Bush saw the sights of the old part of Gdansk.

The PAP communique released at the end of the visit states that during the Polish-U.S. talks it was noted that the pooling of efforts and collaboration among all countries irrespective of their form of social system is of key importance for the modern world. These aims are served by the initiatives made by both the Warsaw Pact and NATO. Bearing in mind the strategic importance of Central Europe, those initiatives which serve to reduce arms and strengthen confidence in the region are particularly important. Both sides also attach fundamental importance to the comprehensive implementation of the principles of the CSCE.

Bush's Remarks on Poland, Hungary Viewed

OW1207143589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1050 GMT 12 Jul 89

["The World Today" program presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] There is a need to understand correctly the interests of every people and country. We turn to this thought when we hear of the visit by U.S. President George Bush to Poland and Hungary. The Polish visit has been completed and Bush arrived in Budapest last night where he will stay until 13 July.

These visits are quite unusual. As far as Budapest is concerned, this is the first time that this city has played host to an American President. Uniqueness and tact, credit and democracy. How many times have we heard this in the official utterings, commentaries, and discussions of Bush's visit to Europe? How many times was this repeated and discussed? Already in the plane, on way to Warsaw, the President announced: I don't want to make too many promises, to do either too much or too little. Instances occur in diplomacy when a certain amount of tact is required. In the words of the President, he wishes to render, in these decisive times, every possible support to achieve the creation of a unified and free Europe.

Let us turn to the other statements made by the U.S. President. This is how he determined the character of his visits: He does not intend to give sermons but he will express his respect to the two countries which are implementing an unprecedented transformation. He would not like to dictate to Poland and Hungary the way they should behave; however, he has no intention to hide which side he is on.

All this was said before the visit to Poland. Once in Warsaw, Bush noted the large progress made during the last 2 years in many spheres of American-Polish relations—in the sphere of culture, trade, consular ties, science, and human rights. Having highly assessed the great strides of change made in Poland, the American President said that the implementation of reforms is a difficult process for which there are no easy answers or free solutions.

Observers note that the program for economic aid to Poland first and foremost contains rescheduling of Polish debts amounting to $11 billion for 5 years.

In Budapest Bush has announced that Hungary is taking part in a unique experiment, showing a determination to develop in the direction of a more open economy, a more open and pluralistic political system.

What is the response to the visit in Budapest itself? Rezso Nyers, chairman [as heard] of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, speaking at a solemn dinner in honor of the American guest, noted that Hungary knows and is aware of the importance of cooperation between the two countries. The maintenance and development of further relations is one of the main forces driving toward general welfare of the country. Nyers stated: We are convinced that the reforms of the Hungarian economy, steps taken to create a market economy will ensure favorable conditions for American businessmen as well. An important phase indeed. In the cause of restoring a stable national economy and making it competitive under present conditions we are counting on the opportunities that are to be found in international cooperation.

It was noted that for a successful implementation of Hungarian reforms it would be difficult to overestimate the significance of the changes that have taken place in recent times in the sphere of international relations and that the relations between the Soviet Union and the United States have a determining significance in the formation of the situation in Europe that are of vital importance to Hungary.

Correspondent Discusses Bush's Promises to Poles

PM1207125189 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jul 89 p 3

[Own Correspondent V. Shutkevich article: "Discovering America? U.S. President George Bush's Visit to Poland Ends Today"]

[Text] Warsaw—The Poles opened up America long ago. But is America open to the Poles? Many of them hoped for an answer to that question during the visit to their country by President Bush, who flew into Warsaw on Sunday evening. In other words, is America ready to be a reliable and equitable partner for their country and to develop all-around cooperation with Poland?

Bush's preliminary promises sounded tempting if rather vague. Addressing Polish Americans in Detroit, he set out his eight-point program. The President stated, for example, that he intends to ask the Paris Club to grant Poland a deferral and preferential terms in the repayment of its foreign debt and also to support a program of aid to the "Polish market economy" at the IMF. Judging by what he said, the U.S. firms which invest their capital in the development of the Polish private sector can also count on a certain financial support. Credits on preferential terms were also promised to Polish private firms. There was also talk of reducing the customs duties on Polish goods, which could bring Poland an extra $25 million a year. Polish press commentaries on this theme revealed a perceptible disappointment: This sum is very insignificant even in comparison with the value of Poland's annual exports to the United States, not to mention its $39 billion debt.

Speaking in the Polish parliament on Monday, Bush presented new proposals. They are now being attentively studied and evaluated. However, the newspaper ZYCIE WARSZAWY was clearly right when recently condemning the blind faith of those who "assume that the U.S. visitor will give his Polish hosts the keys to the reinforced safe containing the billions of dollars which Poland needs to implement economic reforms and surmount the crisis."

The President himself, speaking about his trip, has stressed that he intends to act not in a critical spirit but in a constructive one and does not want to interfere in Poland's domestic affairs in view of their complexity and contradictoriness. Bush noted that his visit to Poland and afterwards to Hungary should be viewed primarily in the overall context of the change in U.S. policy toward Eastern Europe. In gradually renouncing the doctrine of the "general containment of communism," the White House is trying to build its relations with the East European countries on the basis of the changes beginning there. In George Bush's words, he is "heartened by what is going on in Poland" and would like his visit to be an expression of support for "Poland's general striving for an improvement of relations with the United States and the West as a whole." Bush supported the complete withdrawal of the Soviet troops temporarily stationed in Poland from the latter's territory and stressed at the same time that the aim of his visit is not to "complicate relations between the Soviet Union and Poland."

This morning George Bush will fly to Gdansk, where he intends to meet with Solidarity leader L. Walesa.

Reportage on Joint Nuclear Testing Experiment

Baklanov Receives U.S. Scientists

LD0907154389 Moscow TASS in English 1449 GMT 9 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 9 TASS—Oleg Baklanov, secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, had talks today with a group of U.S. congressmen and scientists who took part in a joint Soviet-American experiment on the Black Sea to detect nuclear weapons on ships from a distance.

The U.S. delegation is visiting the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. The Americans also took a look at an industrial nuclear reactor near the city of Chelyabinsk in southern Ural mountains and toured the Sary-Shagal complex with its experimental laser installations.

The talks, described as constructive and frank, discussed the prospects of further nuclear weapons cuts and new reliable means of verification.

The current international situation opens broad prospects for the implementation of programmes vitally important for mankind, it was said.

Both sides could promote this process through greater openness and deeper trust. The sides also emphasised the importance of expanding parliamentary contacts.

Experiment on Weapons Detection

LD0607100889 Moscow TASS in English 2214 GMT 5 Jul 89

[Text] Yalta July 5 TASS—By TASS correspondent Boris Zverev:

A Soviet-American non-government experiment conducted here today was aimed at demonstrating the possibility of creating methods and equipment of distance detection of nuclear weapons on board a surface naval ship. The USSR Defence Ministry provided for the experiment the cruiser Slava with a nuclear missile complex on board, the auxiliary vessel Apsheron and two helicopters. The experiment was conducted in accordance with the arrangement reached by Soviet Academy of Sciences and the National Resources Defense Council of the USA in 1988.

Effective verification of sea-launched nuclear weapons is one of the main problems against which the participants in the talks on strategic offensive arms came up. This problem is aggrivated by the fact that, in the opinion of U.S. officials, effective means of verifying these kinds of weapons are lacking.

Albert Makirov, deputy scientific supervisor of the experiment, said in an interview to TASS: "If we can establish that there are nuclear weapons on board the "Slava", the experiment can be regarded as successful." Soviet and American scientists gathered to help find the ways to solve this problem. Several dozen participants in the experiment—experts, technical specialists of the two countries, three U.S. congressmen and a large group of reporters arrived in this Black Sea resort on Tuesday [4 July].

Wednesday morning the cruiser "Slava" in the Yalta Port weighed anchor and put out to sea where the main work was carried out. Several methods of detecting nuclear weapons on board the ship—directly on board the cruiser, from a helicopter and by means of an on-shore installation were tested. After the results of the experiment are summed up, they will be made public tomorrow.

U.S. Group Assesses Experiment

LD1307042589 Moscow TASS in English 2055 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Washington July 13 TASS—By TASS Correspondent Stanislav Lunev: The holding of the joint experiment of Soviet and American scientists aboard the Soviet Slava missile cruiser of the Black Sea Fleet has opened a new door in our understanding of the Soviet Union, its nuclear and defence capabilities, said Dr Thomas Cochran.

The well-known American physicist and a leading specialist of the Natural Resource Defence Council, A Washington non-governmental organisation, spoke at Wednesday's news conference at the National Press Club, which was devoted to the results of last week's Soviet-American experiment near the Black Sea port of Yalta. Under an accord between the natural Resource Defence Council and the Soviet Academy of Sciences, American and Soviet Scientists conducted the first joint experiment to detect the presence of nuclear warheads aboard a warship.

The American scientist informed those present about the results of the experiment which involved from the U.S. side scientists and specialists from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, the University of Maryland, and the Brookhaven National Laboratory. They were accompanied by a group of American congressmen involving Bob Carr, from Michigan, and James Olin, of Virgina. The group was headed by John Spratt, member of the House Armed Services Committee.

According to Cochran, who headed the American delegation and was responsible for its scientific part, the experiment has demonstrated the possibility of overcoming those difficulties which both American and Soviet scientists will encounter in developing reliable means to detect the presence of nuclear weapons aboard a ship, and confirmed scientists' suppositions that even available technical means will play an essential role in verifying future agreements on reducing both sea-launched nuclear-tipped cruise missiles and other strategic armaments.

Cochran spoke highly of the agreement signed with the Soviet Academy of Sciences on continued work in this field and called upon the U.S. Administration to revise its approach and take part in this work. Some U.S. Administration officials are known to oppose the inclusion of the issue of sea-launched nuclear cruise missiles in the Soviet-U.S. talks under the pretext of the absence of effective verification techniques.

Jacob Sharr, specialist of the Natural Resource Defence Council who also took part in the experiment, said in a TASS interview that the trip made by the American scientists has demonstrated the importance attached in the Soviet Union to achieving a treaty on strategic offensive armaments and was a manifestation of new Soviet military openness and Soviet efforts aimed at expediting verification and reduction in nuclear armaments.

Congressman Bob Carr, who was one of the observers, described the Soviet-U.S. experiment as an event of exceptional importance. He said the holding of this experiment demonstrated the sincerity of the Soviet side's aspirations to achieve new agreements on eliminating nuclear missile weapons, and also significantly bolstered the positions of all people of goodwill and not only in the United States.

Access of American specialists to Soviet military facilities, which were top secret in the past, is a reflection of current changes and transformations in the Soviet Union and a real implementation of the Soviet policy of openness and also new Soviet military openness whose importance is hard to be overestimated.

Nuclear Test 'Cheating' Denied

LD1207142189 Moscow TASS in English 1206 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] New York July 12 TASS—By TASS correspondent Vladimir Mostovets:

That the Soviet Union has never violated the Soviet-American treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear tests and that repeated accusations against it by the Washington administration are groundless has been confirmed by virtually all leading American seismologists and other specialists in nuclear test control, the U.S. NEWSDAY newspaper reports. John Berger, staff member of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in California state, said that he did not know a single prominent seismologist who would think otherwise. He added that it would be wrong to accuse the USSR of cheating.

Berger was part of a group of U.S. scientists who visited the Soviet nuclear proving ground near Semipalatinsk in autumn 1988 to verify the precision of determining nuclear explosion yields with ordinary seismological equipment. A group of Soviet specialists conducted a similar experiment at the U.S. nuclear test site in Nevada state. According to Berger, all who participated in these experiments are convinced that it is possible to register nuclear explosion yields with great precision with instruments which have been used by the United States for many years. None of these instruments has ever shown that the Soviet Union has surpassed the limit for nuclear explosion yields established by the 1974 Soviet-American agreement.

The agreement was not ratified, since the United States believes that it is necessary at first to resolve verification issues.

The results of the joint American-Soviet experiment were not surprising for American scientists, said seismologist Lynn Sykes of Columbia University. They were sure even before this that accusations of treaty violations by the Soviet Union, which were put forth by the Reagan administration, held no water. Regrettably, he said, the present administration holds the same stand, refusing to recognise the lack of evidence for these accusations. It seems, Sykes pointed out, that the White House does not want to admit to being in the wrong, despite the fact that accusations against the USSR contradict scientific data.

Bush, Zaire's Mobutu Meet on Angola

LD3006033989 Moscow TASS in English 2231 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Washington June 30 TASS—By TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin:

Talks were held in the White House on Thursday between U.S. President George Bush and Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko, staying in Washington on an official visit.

The results of the recent African summit, which was held at Gbadolite in Zaire's north and which resulted in an accord on the cessation of hostilities in Angola between government troops and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] forces, became the principal subject of the talks.

The accord, which a majority of African representatives at the summit regard as "historic", opens a real way to achieving a political settlement not only in that country which have been exhausted by the 14 years of civil war, but will also make it possible considerably to reduce tension in southern Africa as a whole.

It is not fortuitous that Mobutu Sese Seko, who became the first African leader to pay a visit to Washington since the Bush administration took office, arrived in the United States a week after the Gbadolite summit.

He is reckoned one of the main mediators in the organisation of the meeting between Angolan president Eduardo Dos Santos and UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi and in the conclusion of a truce agreement.

The United States up to now remains the main Western supplier of arms to UNITA. Every year it gives military aid to UNITA to the tune of about 15 million dollars, including Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

When speaking at a departure ceremony outside the White House, George Bush did not mention the U.S. deliveries of weapons but said that thanks to the agreement "we are nearer the goal long sought, yet long elusive—peace and opportunity in south western Africa".

He stated that the question of a settlement in the south of Africa had also been discussed at the talks and that the two leaders shared the goals of speedy and peaceful elimination of the system of apartheid and the implementation of the U.N. Security Council's Resolution 435 leading to Namibia's independence and complete withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

During the visit, there was also an exchange of ratification instruments of a treaty to encourage greater U.S. capital investments in Zaire.

U.S. To Impose No Additional PRC Sanctions

PM1007131989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jul 89 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report: "NEW YORK TIMES Report"]

[Text] New York, 6 Jul—So THE NEW YORK TIMES has reported, journalists accompanying U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker on his trip around the countries of the Asia-Pacific region have been told that the United States and Japan have reached an agreement not to take further steps aimed at isolating China. A THE NEW YORK TIMES correspondent reports that both countries "will wait and see" how the PRC authorities behave in the coming months before lifting the sanctions that have already been imposed.

U.S.-Soviet Food Trade Body Inaugurated

PM1207154589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jul 89 First Edition p 4

[Unnamed own correspondent report: "Mutual Benefit"]

[Text] Washington, 8 Jul—The International Trade Council of the Food Industry, the birth of which was announced at a press conference in the Soviet Embassy in Washington, has started work.

So, what kind of organization is it and what are its aims? To put it simply, it represents an unprecedented approach to developing Soviet-U.S. cooperation in the food industry. For the first time, a group of 15 U.S. companies has gotten together for the purpose of common, coordinated action to expand trade operations in a foreign market—the Soviet market, in this case.

As members of the National Association of the Processing Industry and the Association for the Production and Supply of Processing Machinery and Equipment, they will be concerned with organizing broad collaboration between the two countries: from setting up joint enterprises for the production of equipment, and for the processing and storage of agricultural produce to exchanging information and specialists, jointly developing new food products, and engaging in science and production cooperation. The International Trade Council of the Food Industry will be represented in Moscow and Washington and, as G. Melnikovich [name as published], president of the Association for the Production and Supply of Processing Machinery and Equipment, said, "it will provide a service for U.S. food companies and Soviet enterprises working in this field."

The council, Melnikovich said, "will be a bridge to the mutual benefit of our two countries."

Economic Cooperation With U.S. Examined

LD2906224589 Moscow TASS in English 1837 GMT 29 Jun 89

[Text] Moscow June 29 TASS—By TASS diplomatic correspondent:

Of all the trends in Soviet-American cooperation, the economic one remained the most difficult and little effective for a long period of time. The fifteenth anniversary today of the agreement between the USA and the USSR on the promotion of economic, industrial and technical cooperation provides an impulse for thinking over the reasons for obtaining the situation.

The agreement reflected, in the first place, the political will of the Soviet and American Governments to promote an adjustment of interaction between the two economies. In the years that followed the political will to cooperate, as well as the general atmosphere in bilateral relations, was not noted for stability. Nevertheless, the agreement on the promotion of economic cooperation was one of the few documents that remained in force despite the crises in Soviet-American relations at the close of the 70's and in the beginning of the 80's. Initially designed for a term of ten years, it was prolonged in 1984 according to mutual agreement of the parties.

Until recently, the parties differed as to what caused the ineffectiveness of their economic cooperation. The Soviet side criticized the American one for imposing political dogma upon economic relations, vd. [as received] Jackson-Vanik and Stevenson amendments and the Cocom restrictions. In turn, the American side emphasized the Soviet Union's economic, technical and managerial unpreparedness for large-scale interaction.

Presently, the reluctance to removing the barriers of political nature, which is also acknowledged by many representatives of the U.S. business quarters, can result in the U.S. falling behind its major rivals on the potentially important Soviet market.

The development of new forms of Soviet-American economic cooperation was given a new impetus after the signing in the beginning of this year of an agreement on the principles of interaction between an American trade consortium amalgamating a number of major American firms and companies and the Soviet foreign economic consortium of which interested Soviet enterprises and organizations became parts. The trade turnover between the Soviet Union and the United States nearly doubled in 1988 and amounted to 2 billion 104 million rubles. More than 40 enterprises established jointly with the United States firms are already operating in the Soviet Union.

The favorable tendencies which are becoming manifest lately attest to the presence of the will on both sides to realize the vast potential for the adjustment of economic cooperation. This will permit to bring economic cooperation in line with the present level of Soviet-American relations in other fields.

U.S. Political Scientists Attend Symposium

LD0307134689 Moscow TASS in English 1328 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 3 TASS—Perestroika in the Soviet Union and its influence on global processes of change in today's world, as well as the role and place of scientists in the development of relations among countries representing various political systems are the subjects of a Soviet-American symposium, "Political sciences and political reforms," that opened in Moscow today.

The Soviet Union's perestroika is an open, creative process, said Georgiy Shakhnazarov, president of the Soviet Association of Political Scientists and a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

"The largest part of Soviet society, various public organisations and movements are involved in this process," he said.

"Under these conditions, political scientists may play a special role. A comparative study of the American experience of political transformations will help Soviet scientists get a clearer picture of possible ways to overcome problems facing Soviet society."

Professor Lucia Pie, president of the American Political Science Association, stressed that the significance of political reforms in the Soviet Union far exceeded this country's national boundaries.

Noting that the American public is closely watching changes in Soviet society, Pie agreed with the view that each socialist country that has embarked on the road of change is making its own, unique contribution to the development of the socialist theory. Fedor Burlatskiy, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Public Commission for International Cooperation in Humanitarian Issues and Human Rights, shared his impressions of the recent congress of people's deputies. He emphasized that the new Soviet parliament, created by the congress, is a genuine legislative body expressing the diversity of positions and views of various sections of Soviet society.

The openness and constructive character of the Supreme Soviet's work give all grounds to hope that Soviet legislators will apply maximum effort for the speedy and effective solution of serious economic and social problems facing the country, Burlatskiy said.

Northeast Asia

Soviets Greet Mongolians on Revolution Jubilee

Yazov Greets Counterpart

PM1207111789 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jul 89 First Edition p 1

[Undated greetings message from Army General D. Yazov, Soviet Defense Minister, "To Comrade Army General Jamsrangiyn Yondon, Mongolian Defense Minister"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolution on behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and myself personally I send you and all soldiers in the Mongolian People's Army [MPA] fraternal greetings and cordial congratulations.

The July 1921 revolution was a turning point in the development of the Mongolian people's historic fortunes and determined its advance on socialism's path.

This year this anniversary is being celebrated on the eve of the 50th anniversary of the imperialist Japanese forces' crushing defeat in the region of the Halhin Gol River. The joint combat operations of Soviet and Mongolian soldiers once again demonstrated the inviolability of the friendship between the Soviet and Mongolian peoples and their armies which even now continues to develop and strengthen successfully.

In connection with the national holiday—Mongolian People's Revolution Day—I wish you, Comrade minister, and all MPA soldiers every success in implementing the decisions of the 19th Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Congress to strengthen their socialist country's defense capability.
With communist greetings
Army General D. Yazov, USSR defense minister.

Leaders Greet Council of Ministers

PM1207141589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jul 89 Second Edition p 1

[Congratulatory message issued by the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet, USSR Council of Ministers to Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium, and Comrade Dumaagiyn Sodnom, chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers—date not given]

[Text] To Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium

To Comrade Dumaagiyn Sodnom, chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers

Dear Comrades!

We cordially congratulate you, all communists, and all of fraternal Mongolia's working people on your national holiday—the 68th anniversary of the people's revolution.

A new era began on that memorable day—11 July 1921—in the centuries-old history of your country as it embarked on the path of national revival and progress. In these years under the leadership of the MPRP, great successes have been achieved in the economy and culture, living conditions have been improved, and real preconditions created for more dynamic socialist development in Mongolia. The course of restructuring in all spheres of public life initiated by the party of Mongolian communists has opened up new opportunities for the constructive potential of the working class, the peasantry, and the country's intelligentsia to be effectively revealed and the creative forces of its young people, who have maintained the tradition of revolutionary transformations on Mongolian territory in a worthy fashion, to be mobilized.

Advocating the establishment in international life of the principles of the new political thinking, Mongolia has enterprisingly helped strengthen security and relations of good-neighborliness in the Asia-Pacific region and helped improve the situation in the world as a whole.

People in the Soviet Union value their traditionally friendly relations with people's Mongolia founded on complete equality, independence, international mutual assistance, and comradely attention to one another's interests and concerns We are sure that the coming years will be marked by the active progression of our cooperation in all areas—in the economy, the superstructure, and in international affairs.

We wish you, dear Comrades, and the entire Mongolian people happiness, prosperity, and great successes in attaining your planned goals.
CPSU Central Committee
USSR Supreme Soviet
USSR Council of Ministers

Mongolians Send Thanks for Greetings

PM1207141789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jul 89 Second Edition p 1

[Mongolian leaders' undated message to M.S. Gorbachev and N.I. Ryzhkov]

[Text] To Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet

To Comrade Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

On behalf of the Mongolian people, the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee, the People's Great Hural Presidium, and the Mongolian Council of Ministers we express sincere gratitude to you, dear comrades, and through you the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the fraternal Soviet people for the cordial congratulations and kind wishes to mark the 68th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolution.

We note with profound gratitude that the successes which the Mongolian people have achieved in implementing the ideals of the 1921 people's revolution are indissolubly linked with the inviolable ties of friendship and fraternity and comprehensive cooperation between Mongolia and the USSR and the generous assistance and support accorded by the Land of the Soviets.

We fully share your conviction that Mongolian-Soviet international friendship and close cooperation in all spheres of public life will continue to deepen and develop for the good of our countries and peoples and in the interests of peace and socialism.

From the bottom of our hearts we wish you, Dear Comrades, and all the Soviet people new successes in implementing restructuring in the life of Soviet society and the course of ensuring peace and universal security, along with the democratization and humanization of international relations, in the spirit of the historic decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the Congress of USSR People's Deputies.

[Signed] J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian Great People's Hural Presidium

D. Sodnom, chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers.

Japan's Ruling Party To Suffer 'Defeat'

OW1007214989 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1050 GMT 10 Jul 89

[From "The World Today" program presented by Viktor Lyubovtsev]

[Text] Elections for Japan's upper house, the House of Councillors, will take place on 23 July. According to the unanimous opinion of observers, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party will suffer a serious defeat. The sharp fall of its popularity among the voters has been caused by the scandalous revelations of a number of corrupt party leaders, mostly related to the Recruit company issue. Added to this, there is also the issue of Prime Minister Uno being charged with marital infidelity.

Under the Japanese Constitution, the lower house of the parliament, the House of Representatives, has greater power. There, the Liberal Democratic Party has a reliable and dependable majority. However, many draft laws must win approval of both the houses. That is why now, 2 weeks before the elections to the House of Councillors, several government officials are speaking about the possibility of forming a coalition government, first and foremost, with the participation of candidates from the Socialist Party. It is precisely this party that is expected to gain the most votes on 23 July.

Mironenko Speaks on DPRK Youth Festival

PM1207140589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jul 89 Second Edition p 6

[Interview in Pyongyang with V. Mironenko, first secretary of the All-Union Lenin Communist Youth League (Komsomol) Central Committee, by own correspondent S. Tikhomirov: "New Chapter Opened..."—date of interview not stated]

[Text] Pyongyang—The flame in the bowl above the Nynna [name as transliterated] Stadium—the flame of the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students—has been extinguished. Some 150,000 people watched the impressive closing ceremony of the young people's festival. The 8 days of exchanging ideas and experience were over. What are the results of this forum? What should festivals be like in the future? Your PRAVDA correspondent asked V. Mironenko, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, to share his views on this subject:

[Mironenko] We went to Pyongyang with an understanding of the need to work seriously and to help the festival's hosts. After all, the very fact of holding a festival here in the DPRK was fraught with certain complexities. After all, the country has a specific character which is not totally comprehensible to inhabitants of Western countries, for instance. Apart from that, our Korean friends have no experience in holding such large-scale events.

So far as the organizational, public spectacle side of things is concerned, here the hosts rose to the occasion. And so far as the political side is concerned, they must be given their due; they showed tolerance in understanding the specific nature of the festival movement's traditions, although of course the event was not without its problems (just like the 12th World Festival in Moscow). But the results speak for themselves. A total of 180 countries participating! That itself is of considerable importance. There was a debate on the future of the festival movement. I think that in the process of the festival it was possible to sustain a balance between the interests of each participant, but it was very difficult to do this, since a number of organizations arrived with the attitude that there are two points of view—"mine" and "the wrong one."

[Tikhomirov] What were the aims of the Soviet delegation?

[Mironenko] To advance the ideas of the new political thinking at the youth level. This is extremely difficult even at the "adult level," but allowing for youthful maximalism... Young people throughout the world are in a very complex situation, they are gripped by many acute problems and cannot always see or find a way out of them. In both a national and an international framework. Hence, if you like, extremism, pseudorevolutionary attitudes carried to absurd extremes, and many other things...

I think that with the conclusion of the 13th World Festival, not just a page has been turned in the history of the festival movement. A whole chapter is finished and now we have a clean sheet of paper before us...

[Tikhomirov] What do you mean?

[Mironenko] The festival movement began, as you know, after World War II as an antifascist, antimilitarist, and in this sense anti-imperialist movement. Thereafter it lived and developed, and traditions, experience, and positive results accumulated. But we were reluctant to notice that at the same time other phenomena were accumulating. For example, the intrusion of political expediency. And here we Soviets were the most successful of all. For we always had the "controlling share." We were able to introduce our own view of the world and our own understanding of socialism here.

In addition, every time the festival opening became more ceremonial, the number of events grew, and the cultural and sports programs were increased at the expense of political debates—all this, in my opinion, has led to certain distortions. And such forums have become an expensive amusement.

[Tikhomirov] A number of participants in the festival with whom I talked consider that the slogans must be changed since they frighten away many West Europeans.

[Mironenko] I think that this is not an entirely accurate interpretation. At each phase of the festival movement a specific meaning has been attached to the concept of anti-imperialist solidarity. But at some point the anti-imperialist solidarity turned into anti-American solidarity. This is wrong and disrespectful, above all toward the American people. And in this case they seized on the word, but there is nothing wrong with the word anti-imperialist in itself.

[Tikhomirov] You said that a new chapter must be opened. How do you see the festival of the future?

[Mironenko] I believe that we must return to the sources of the festival movement. Mankind has common assets despite its division into the capitalist and the socialist world. There are universally recognized things and moral, political, and philosophical values which are fundamental. The festival should be based on these if it wants to make a contribution to the life of the world. The anti-imperialist character of the festival must be retained and at the same time rethought in the light of new realities. I also consider that the festival should be less pompous. I would like young people to do everything with their own hands at the festival: the opening, the closing, the concerts, the shows, and so on. Let them be creative themselves.

The question of the size of the delegations is very complex. After all, the way to the festival must not be barred to anyone. And the issue cannot be posed in the following terms: Let us simply decrease the number of participants. I think that everyone who wants to come should be able to. But this will involve additional expense. It is no secret that a small proportion of the organizations carries the burden of financing the festivals and the rest merely come to the finished product. I consider that all the same it would be better if all the participants made a contribution to financing such events. And also, it seems to me, there should be more tolerance. It is necessary to be able to listen to any point of view, however absurd it may seem at first sight.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Soviet Military Plane Reportedly Crashes in SRV

OW1107131389 Tokyo KYODO in English 1249 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Hanoi, July 11 KYODO—A Soviet military plane with more than 20 Soviet officers on board crashed in central Vietnam and all the officers and crew were killed on the spot last Saturday [8 July], reliable sources said Tuesday.

The Vietnamese Government and the Soviet Embassy in Hanoi have not reported the accident.

A visiting 20-member Soviet military mission and several Vietnamese officers on board were killed, the sources said.

The sources said the plane took off from an airport in Hanoi or an airport in Da Nang before it went down.

Burmese Beam Views Effects of Rangoon Bomb Blast

BK1307030589 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1430 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Station observer's commentary: "Who Benefits From the Tense Situation in Burma?"]

[Text] Despite being heavily guarded by troops, the Municipal Office in Yangon [Rangoon], the capital of Myanma [Burma], was rocked by a bomb blast on Monday [10 July]. The explosion killed three people and seriously wounded another [as heard]. The victims of the bomb blast were a police officer, a municipal staff worker, and an immigration officer [as heard]. This unfortunate incident took place at a time when opposition leaders are declaring that they aim to peacefully commemorate last year's popular uprising. Such an incident could therefore provide an excuse to those who are looking for a pretext to find fault.

Recently, opposition leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, general secretary of the National League for Democracy [NLD], said that her party was against unnecessary conflicts which were bad for the country, and that all people struggling for democracy must be work with discipline and [words indistinct].

Like many other political parties, the NLD has also extended an offer for talks with the government. This is because it believes that Myanma's political problems can only be resolved through dialogue in the interests of the people. If all parties involved are convinced that their stands are correct and that they have the backing of the people, then they should not shirk from any form of dialogue. In fact they should be eager for such talks, and only those who have a guilty conscience and who do not have confidence in themselves would be fearful of the outcome.

Given the present delicate situation, any attempt to resort to the sort of brutal killings and cruel oppression committed by the military authorities would not serve the interests of the political parties and would almost certainly backfire.

Would conflicts arising from adverse and intense political tension (?benefit) the opposition parties or, to mention it for the first time, the National Unity Party which was born from the Burma Socialist Program Party? In his interview with a Soviet correspondent recently, U Chit Hlaing, a leader of the National Unity Party, said from the way things are turning out in the country, his party is assured of certain victory. He said this was the belief of the party leadership. U Chit Hlaing said the National Unity Party has a strong base in the villages and that the rural people would vote for his party.

This being the case, any strong measures taken by the military authorities to prevent further killings from taking place may have an adverse affect on the National Unity Party as well and may also diminish the support of the rural people for that party. This is because it is a well known fact among that the interests of the National Unity Party are very closely linked with those of the military government.

According to reports from Yangon, the military authorities are searching everywhere to flush out terrorists. Whoever these terrorists may be, their work definitely cannot benefit the genuine democratic movement of the people.

SRV Party Leader's Laos Visit Termed 'Landmark'

PM1107154589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jul 89 Second Edition p 5

[Petr Tsvetov dispatch: "Strengthening Relations"]

[Text] Vientiane, 5 Jul—The 3-day official visit to Laos by the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] delegation headed by Nguyen van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, has finished. Thorough talks were held during which the present-day state of and prospects for the development of bilateral relations and the situation in the Pacific and Asia were analyzed comprehensively and in depth.

A mass friendship rally was held in Vientiane. Relations between the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and the CPV have a great and glorious history. It goes back to 1930, when Ho Chi Minh created the Communist Party of Indochina. The subsequent decades of struggle against American imperialist aggression and construction of the bases of a future socialist society helped strengthen ties between Lao and Vietnamese communists.

The present visit has established a new landmark in their history. The published communique enables this conclusion to be drawn. The sides have outlined measures aimed at further strengthening and developing relations of friendship and solidarity between the parties and the peoples in all spheres. A blow has thus been dealt to the hopes recently voiced in the bourgeois press regarding a cooling of relations among the three Indochina states.

The meeting of the two parties' leaders is of no small importance in the light of the approaching events concerned with settling the conflict in Southeast Asia. During the talks the sides confirmed their commitment to political methods of resolving the regional dispute and expressed their support for the State of Cambodia government's line.

On the whole the CPV delegation's visit to Laos will undoubtedly serve to strengthen the position of the forces of socialism and peace in the region.

ASEAN Foreign Ministers Confer in Bangkok

PM1207155589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jul 89 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Skvortsov report: "ASEAN Looks to the Future"]

[Text] Bangkok, 8 Jul—The annual meeting, the 22d so far, between the foreign ministers of ASEAN, which, in addition to the host country, includes Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, and Indonesia, has been held in the capital of Brunei, Bandar Seri Begawan.

The published communique focuses attention on the problems which concern "the six" on the threshold of a settlement of the regional conflict which for the last 10 years has surrounded the state of Cambodia. As is well known, this problem has invariably been the central issue in previous years in the joint documents of the association and has usually varied little in its presentation, remaining "inflexible." This time the ministers welcome the progress made in reaching a political settlement, which is necessary for ensuring peace, stability, and harmony in the region, as the document points out.

The complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, planned for the end of September, is regarded as a positive step in this direction.

A sovereign, independent, neutral, nonaligned state existing on the basis of national reconciliation—that is how the ASEAN foreign ministers see the Cambodia of the future. Also noteworthy is the intention of the partners expressed during the general discussion regarding the association's approaches to safeguarding their common interests. They discussed pursuing a policy in relation to their Indochinese neighbors that would not be imbued with a desire for discord on the basis of ideological differences but with a quest for community through mutual benefit and prosperity.

The heads of the ASEAN foreign policy departments spoke out in favor of ending the arms race and in support of talks between the Soviet Union and the United States on banning and destroying nuclear weapons. They welcomed the Soviet-Chinese summit meeting as an event helping to improve the international climate as a whole and creating a favorable atmosphere for the settlement of regional problems. The ministers feel it necessary to convene an international peace conference on the Near East under the UN aegis with equal participation by representatives of the PLO.

Near East & South Asia

Afghan Government Declares 4-Day Cease-Fire

PM1307091989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA Press Service report: "The Government Declares Cease-Fire"]

[Text] News agencies report from Kabul: The Afghan Armed Forces Supreme Military Command has declared a unilateral cease-fire by the Afghan forces to mark the Muslim feast of 'Id al-Adha.

The government has informed all members of antigovernment formations that they shall be guaranteed total safety in the event of visits to families and friends during the feast days. The cease-fire went into force in the morning on 12 July and shall last 4 days. "It may be extended provided it is observed by the opposition," the government communique notes. "In the event of the cease-fire conditions being broken, the Armed Forces reserve their right to deliver counterstrikes against insurgents."

But leaders of the mujahidin "transitional government" based in the Pakistani city of Peshawar have turned down Kabul's cease-fire proposal. According to REUTER, an official spokesman of the "Peshawar government" declared that the opposition "has turned down in the past and shall turn down in the future any similar proposals by the Kabul authorities." He also let it be understood that antigovernment formations intend to counterattack Afghan Army positions in Nangarhar Province in the very near future for the purpose of regaining population centers lost as a result of the recent successful offensive by government forces.

Quoting the text of the Supreme Defense Council statement, Western news agencies single out yet another feature: an unambiguous warning to Pakistan which, in the Afghan Government's opinion, has launched an open aggression against the neighboring state. AFP reports that "the Kabul authorities have called upon the Afghan people to be prepared for war against Pakistan," and notes the unprecedentedly harsh tone of the latest statement.

Pakistan's aggression against Afghanistan is becoming increasingly terrorist and rapacious, the statement says. "Attacks on major cities, including Kabul, are carried out on direct orders from the Pakistani military. The Supreme Defense Council will positively respond to the prayers of the long-suffering people who demand protection of their lives and property. For the purpose of defending the motherland and countering aggression by Pakistan, the Armed Forces units and subunits must be in a state of full combat readiness. Afghanistan will embark on decisive countermeasures. In such an event, full responsibility for the consequences shall be borne by the Pakistani military. The Republic of Afghanistan Armed Forces and the Afghan people have everything necessary to repulse aggression."

President Najibullah of Afghanistan spoke on Radio Kabul on 11 July. He called on the commanders of opposition formations operating inside the country to begin talks with the government. "We are prepared to examine without any preconditions any proposals and initiatives aimed at ending the war," Najibullah declared. Addressing the opponents of the authorities, the president stressed that the war in Afghanistan is steadily expanding. Pakistan is hatching plans to create a new military-political bloc in the Middle East, and the continuation of the war in Afghanistan following the withdrawal of Soviet troops is aimed at their implementation.

The Afghan leader gave assurances that all civil and political rights shall be guaranteed for commanders of antigovernment formations who join the process of national reconciliation. They shall be able to open representative offices of their parties and organization at central and local level and to publish press organs. Their property and any land formerly belonging to them shall be returned to them.

"We are striving for just one thing—an immediate end to the war," Najibullah declared. He noted that many field commanders have already given a positive reply to the government's peace proposals, while a dialogue is in progress with others.

BAKHTAR carried a report that Pakistani citizen Mokhtiyar Gol [name as transliterated], who infiltrated Afghan territory with a detachment from the "Islamic

Party of Afghanistan," was detained in Qandahar Province. During the preliminary investigation M. Gol admitted that he is a Pakistani military intelligence officer and was on an intelligence service mission in Afghanistan. Firearms were confiscated from the arrested person, the news agency reports.

Afghans Warn Against Continued Aggression

LD1207185889 Moscow TASS in English 1636 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—By TASS news analyst Askold Biryukov:

The holy war, or jihad, and the warriors of faith, or mujahideen, are old currency now, no longer worth the implied original value, especially when used by Afghan irreconcilables and, above all, by their leaders. In fact, the words have acquired sinister overtones following daily bloodshed and other crimes perpetrated by the irreconcilable opposition against common Moslems and Islam's material emblems in Afghanistan. The latest of such crimes is the massive rocket bombardment of Kabul which claimed 200 lives of those who were preparing to mark one of the country's most revered Moslem holidays in the Afghan capital. What faith and holiness have motivated the carnage, what sacred things are inviolable for those who masterminded and executed the profanity?

It has become known that prior to the action, which is at variance not only with Islam but any other faith, leader of the irreconcilables Gulbuddin Hekmatyar visited the provinces adjacent on Kabul in the company of American experts. With money and threats he pressed the commanders of anti-government formations to step up sporadic bombardments of the Afghan capital. Another piece of news from the rebel side is that the U.S. ambassador to the Afghan opposition camp, Peter Tomsen got very busy on the eve of the events. At meetings with extremists he urged them to step up armed struggle against the Kabul government, expressed confidence that "Mujahideens will continue their struggle until victory" and assured them that the United States will renew mass supplies of arms for them.

It is no wonder therefore that Afghan women have greeted American reporters with words full of wrath against the U.S. Administration which is still counting on a settlement of the Afghan dispute by military means. THE WASHINGTON POST quoted some of these angry women as saying that rebel rockets killed many in their homes, that while the rebels kept saying they were fighting against communists, they killed a lot of children instead. They asked reporters to tell George Bush that U.S. rockets killed women and children.

There is a limit to patience even in the hearts of religionists. The Supreme Council of Afghanistan's ulems and spiritual leaders addressed to the U.N. Good Offices Mission in Kabul their plea for urgent and decisive actions to stop barbarous bombardments of the city. The council emphasized that, if shelling continued, they will demand that the Afghan president use the latest weapons, which the Afghan armed forces refrained from using so far against those who instigate the irreconcilable opposition to continue bloodshed.

A stern warning was also made to the Pakistani military who intervene in Afghanistan's internal affairs with arms. "Pakistan must realize that the Afghan Armed Forces have everything to repel aggression," says a statement made by the supreme military command of the Afghan Armed Forces. If aggression continues, a devastating blow will be dealt on the enemy, the responsibility for which will be borne in full measure by the Pakistani military. The commandmer-in-chief stated on Tuesday that all the Afghan Armed Forces were ordered to cease fire starting Wednesday to coincide with the Islamic holy days of 'Id al-Adha. It guaranteed full security to members of anti-government forces visiting their relatives and friends during the holy days. But on the same day, rebel leaders rejected Kabul's peaceful gesture and announced their decision to launch a counter-attack to recapture the positions lost in battles with the government troops.

Indeed, limitless ambitions of the armed opposition leaders dulled their brains. Declaring a war on their own nation they are severing the very branch onto which they have been clinging with the help of their foreign sponsors.

Possibility of MiG-29's for Afghanistan Discussed

BK1207142389 Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan 1300 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Aleksandr Pogodin commentary]

[Text] The Pentagon has officially informed the U.S. Congress that it intends to sell 60 F-16 fighter-bomber aircraft to Pakistan. This pact was reached about 1 month ago during Pakistan Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto's Washington visit. After the talks between Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto and President George Bush, both sides expressed their determination to continue joint military and other assistance to the Afghan armed opposition. The present U.S. arms supply to Pakistan and both these countries' continuing interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs are two sides of the same coin—that is, to intensify war in Afghanistan and increase tension in the entire region. The concern expressed by other states of Southeast Asia [as heard] on the increased military capability of Pakistan as a result of its U.S.-supplied sophisticated arms is, thus, warranted.

The U.S. decision to provide a large number of fighter aircraft to Pakistan contradicts the statements by leaders of these countries regarding a political solution of the Afghan problem. In the situation of further intensification of conflict in Afghanistan, the possibility exists that the new arms gained from the United States will be used with an aim to make the Afghan situation more critical.

In other words, the F-16 aircraft and other arms would, perhaps, fall into the hands of Afghan opposition, and would be used to put pressure on the legitimate Afghan Government.

In such a situation, the Soviet side will not remain neutral; but, as has been officially stated, it will be forced to take necessary measures to help the friendly government of the Republic of Afghanistan. For example, the question of supplying the Afghan military with MiG-29 aircraft and other sophisticated weapons might arise, although the Soviet Union has not yet supplied these weapons to Afghanistan.

Kabul Rocketing Attests Rebel Inflexibility

PM1207130989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
12 Jul 89 Second Edition p 5

[PRAVDA and TASS special correspondents A. Boldinyuk and A. Greshnov dispatch: "Tragedy on the Eve of the Holiday"]

[Text] Kabul, 11 Jul—The night sky over the capital of Afghanistan lit up with flashes of light from the rocket bombardment. At first it seemed as though a storm front was passing somewhere in the distance and summer lightning was moving closer and closer. After getting onto the roof of the house we peered in alarm in the direction where everything indicated that things were heating up—the area around Kabul International Airport was under bombardment. Suddenly the mountain behind which the rocket launchers lay appeared clearly against the black backdrop of the sky—in the morning we found out that a rocket had landed on a warehouse containing the infrared burners used to protect aircraft against "Stingers."

At 0830 hours we drove out to the airport, and a few minutes after we left rockets began to fall in the area where we had been. Near Aliyabad Street, where one of that day's numerous tragedies happened, we were greeted by an Afghan friend. He told us what had happened there a few minutes before. It was clear without his saying—the consequences of a "rocket projectile" explosion are dreadful. The rocket's front section had bored through a layer of asphalt, while the tail section had shattered into hundreds of pieces, riddling the walls of nearby buildings. The people gathered there vied with each other in telling us how two cyclists had been literally blown to pieces and two other townspeople had died almost immediately from severe injuries. The ambulances which arrived at the scene took numerous wounded away...

The sound of explosions could be heard all morning. We later learned that 65 rockets landed on the city that day, killing 18 people, most of them women and children. More than 130 people were injured. The capital has not suffered such a bombardment for a long time.

The extremists had calculated the time precisely. At that time of the morning the streets of Kabul were particularly crowded. In a few days' time Muslims will be celebrating one of the most revered religious holidays—Id al-Adha. On the eve of this event the townspeople try to stock up with food for a festive banquet. During the holiday barefoot children and beggars will knock on the doors of the houses. It is an Afghan custom to feed every hungry person who asks for help. The prices for food products "rocketed," as the saying goes, during the severe winter blockade of the city. So housewives have had to run round several stores to buy goods a little more cheaply. But in many Afghan families there will be no holiday—their homes are beset with mourning and alarm for their relatives who have filled the hospital and infirmary wards.

We learned that immediately after the bombardment of the city Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" and foreign minister in the so-called "transitional government," visited Lowgar and Vardak Provinces, which border on Kabul Province, accompanied by 10 foreign advisers, including 8 from the United States. He held a number of meetings with the field commanders of opposition detachments, during which he gave them large sums of money in exchange for a promise to step up the bombardment of the Afghan capital. Threats of reprisals were used if they refused.

The brutal bombardment of Kabul was the result of bitterness among the leaders of the opposition formations, who suffered a severe defeat at Jalalabad. Unable to achieve military success in a single area of Afghanistan, the extremists immediately shifted the center of gravity of their rocket bombardments to Kabul. By all appearances the leaders of the "fighters for the faith" and their backers, who are directly coordinating the "hardliners'" actions, have no intention of changing their chosen course of trying to resolve the Afghan problem by military methods and continuing to sow death and destruction on Afghan soil. But this line is hopeless—events have shown that the knot of contradictions between the various political forces in the country and abroad cannot be unraveled by armed means. If it is continued, the conflict will only intensify and drag on still longer. A compromise solution is needed, that considers all the realities. Are the armed opposition forces ready for such a compromise? The mass bombardment of major cities and population centers in various regions of Afghanistan is evidence of the reverse.

Conflicting Claims on Rebel 'General Offensive'

PM1007141389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
7 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 5

["IZVESTIYA Press Service" report under the rubric "Panorama of International Events": "Afghanistan: Bitter Fighting Around Jalalabad"]

[Text] According to BAKHTAR, Afghan armed opposition detachments have launched a major offensive against government troop positions near Jalalabad. After stubborn fighting, the garrison managed to repel the attack with the support of artillery and air forces. Missile and bomb attacks were carried out against a concentration of antigovernment forces, as a result of which, according to BAKHTAR, 37 mujahidin were killed and 45 wounded. In the course of operations carried out by the Afghan Army to the south of Jalalabad, some 500 mortar charges and 122 recoilless rifle projectiles were confiscated. The agency has also reported a missile and artillery attack by opposition formations against residential areas of the city and government troop posts. Ten people were killed and 17 hospitalized with injuries.

According to REUTER reports, Afghan Army units have carried out a successful counterattack in the mountains southeast of Jalalabad. Opposition detachments have been forced to withdraw 1.5 km and, in some areas, as much as 5 km.

News agencies report from Kabul that on 5 July the mujahidin launched seven missiles against the capital. Six people were killed and eight injured as a result. REUTER indicates that, according to eyewitnesses, one of the missiles landed just 100 meters from a gas station.

At the same time, reports are also coming from Islamabad about the mujahidin offensive on Jalalabad. Quoting information obtained from rebel spokesmen, AFP reports an attack mounted in the vicinity of the city by four detachments from the "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" (the group led by G. Hekmatyar). As a result of the offensive, if one is to believe mujahidin reports, they have succeeded in cutting off the Kabul-Jalalabad highway. During the fighting with government forces, AFP said, opposition forces seized four Afghan Army posts, destroyed two ammunition dumps, and put a tank out of action.

While citing these reports, AFP points out, however, that eyewitness accounts refute some of the Mujahidin reports of victory. For example, truck drivers who arrived in the capital 5 July from Jalalabad said that the highway linking the two cities is still open.

N. Amani, official spokesman for the Afghan Foreign Ministry, told journalists in Kabul that the events of the last few days show that, to all appearances, the opposition leaders have launched a general offensive. Military experts in Kabul knew of preparations for this offensive but believed that it would begin closer to 20 July. "The rebels have begun major offensive operations earlier than expected. The mujahidin have evidently altered their schedule," a communique from the Afghan military command issued in Kabul said.

According to REUTER, the Afghan Foreign Ministry had planned to organize a visit to Jalalabad for 20 foreign journalists. The correspondents were to have flown from Kabul Wednesday, but the trip has been cancelled in view of the deterioration of the situation.

Situation in Baghlan Province Reported

PM2906105389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
24 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by TASS correspondent Yu. Tyssovskiy specially for IZVESTIYA: "'No One Should Be Excluded From Dialogue' Says Baghlan Province Spiritual Leader"]

[Text] Pol-e Khomri-Kabul—The name Mansur Nadiri is inseparable from the two concepts of "pir" (sacred) and "sayed" (a direct descendent of the prophet Muhammad), which have enormous significance in Afghanistan. He is the spiritual leader of Afghanistan's Ishmaelite sect, which in the "land of mountains" numbers more than a million people. In all Muslim countries the followers of this Shi'ite branch of Islam are considered to be virtual heretics and rebels. Over the centuries they were persecuted by the Sunni majority, but they steadfastly adhered to their religious views. This required stoicism, selflessness, exceptional flexibility, and the ability to adapt to the conditions of their existence. These qualities also fully apply to the Afghan community of Ishmaelites.

M. Nadiri enjoys unquestionable prestige there, verging on worship. I could see this both in his Kabul home and during a 5-day trip to Baghlan Province, which recently was literally seething with antigovernment gangs and was troubled and dangerous but where surprising changes are taking place.

On the eve of the Soviet troops' withdrawal the Afghan leadership agreed to the formation of a militia made up of Ishmaelites and other national and religious groups in Baghlan for the 80th division of the Afghan Armed Forces, whose mission was to maintain peace and security throughout the province, including the northern slopes of the Salang with its tunnel—the key point of the Hayraton-Kabul "lifeline" which supplies the capital with all its needs. This was the right step—Baghlan has become a zone of national harmony in all respects.

In his 50 years "Pir" Mansur has endured a great deal. Under King Zahir Shah and President Daoud the Ishmaelites, particularly their leaders, were subjected to constant persecution. Immediately after the revolution in April 1978 Mansur himself was thrown into prison and came out only a year later, while two of his brothers disappeared there during Hafizollah Amin's bloody administration.

When the so-called "second stage" of the revolution had begun, M. Nadiri began to analyze carefully the new leadership's activity, to separate the wheat from the chaff (and there was more than enough of the latter), taking as the basic criterion its usefulness from the viewpoint of the laboring people's well-being. And he found, particularly after President Najibullah came to power, many points of contact, the main one being the government's declaration of the national reconciliation policy. So emerged the active cooperation which was directed at pacifying the country and putting a stop to the senseless bloodshed.

During my numerous conversations with M. Nadiri—on a cool night on the bank of a babbling brook, during lavish meals in his "residences," which are humble by any yardstick, in tents and marquees, and in short conversations while "on the move"—I had crystallized a quite clear impression of the Ishmaelite leader's "peace strategy" which he, however, through his great prestige, intends to disseminate—and is disseminating—not only in Baghlan but also in other northern provinces—Balkh, Samangan, and Konduz.

This strategy is based on three main principles. The first and main one is that the people are tired of internecine wars which bring only suffering and deprivation to hundreds of thousands of people, and the collapse of their economic and social life. The second is that it is obviously impossible to solve the problems facing Afghanistan by force of arms. Such attempts, whoever they are made by, only lead the country to a hopeless impasse, and so the method of persuasion, compromise, and economic incentives is being brought to the fore. And the third is the need for a lofty sense of national responsibility among leaders of all ranks, in which the interests of the clans, tribes, and groups they represent must fuse harmoniously with the interests of the Afghan people as a whole.

In other words, self-interest and the desire to obtain special privileges must be rejected, and everything must be done so that national harmony triumphs in the Afghan land. This, and only this, can open the way to the creation of a broadly representative coalition government based on the policy of national reconciliation.

My interlocutor did not deny that there are still many difficulties on this path, and the model formulated by him for Baghlan is by no means mandatory for the other regions of Afghanistan, where by virtue of specific local conditions progress toward peace may be different.

Our actions, he stressed, have the full support of President Najibullah because they are directed at creating peace and well-being for the province's entire population—Shi'ites, Sunnis and Ishmaelites, Pushtuns, Tajiks, and Hazaras. We are not excluding anyone from the dialogue, including those "irreconcilable" rebel groups, and force of arms should only be used as a last resort when our enemies do not want to understand any other language.

Following Mansur's white "Niva" jeep in GAZ and UAZ jeeps, we traveled along the highway from Pol-e Khomri, Baghlan's administrative center, to the top of Salang still covered in snow, satisfying ourselves that the road is well protected and is functioning normally. We went around the entire southwestern part of the province, virtually unprotected, on tracks at a speed of 25-30km an hour, first through the valley along the River Surkhab, which is turbulent at this time of the year, and then through ravines leading off of it, where people know about the Soviets only by hearsay.

We talked with the peaceable peasants in the fields and the shepherds in the mountains, with the mujahidin who are as real as they come and who did not conceal their hostility toward us and their hatred of the "Kabul regime," with refugees who had returned from Pakistan, and with nurses from the superb hospital built by "pir" Mansur in his "ancestral nest" in Kayan where, incidentally, they also assist wounded rebels. The word "solh" (peace) was heard particularly often in these conversations, including among the "irreconcilables," although it is true that they made it dependent on various conditions.

The strongest impression? In the course of 1 and ½ hours, with motors roaring and radiators boiling, our convoy of vehicles stormed a narrow ravine leading upwards along a "road" full of sharp stones and cobbles left by mountain torrents, and then suddenly came out onto a plateau among quite high mountains. Even the steepest slopes were lovingly cultivated with terraces of wheat fields.

How many working hands, how much incessant labor and sweat was needed to turn this harsh region into a granary! After the wheat has been harvested all the fields in Pol-e Khomri are flooded. Here the peasants grow rice, that famous "baghlan" rice which is used in the best kind of pilaf. The province is entirely self-sufficient in the main agricultural crops and it exports a significant proportion to other areas of the country and even abroad. That is the effect of peace.

And the last point. In Peshawar the leaders of the "irreconcilables" love to plug one figure—95 percent, that is the amount of territory they claim is under their control in Afghanistan. Look at a map and you will see that Baghlan alone is bigger than the remaining five percent, and they are patently not in control of it. And what about the country's other regions? Those in which the rebels still operate are dwindling, an increasing number of groups who used to operate under the "jihad" banner are laying down their arms. The national reconciliation policy is indeed demonstrating its viability.

U.S. Envoys' Visit to Pakistan Discussed

PM1307132589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
13 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Upcoming U.S.-Pakistani Military Maneuvers"]

[Text] The Pakistani public is still discussing the results of the recent visits to Islamabad by U.S. General N. Schwarzkopf and P. Tomsen, U.S. special representative for the armed Afghan opposition, linking them to the renewed, unsuccessful attempts by the opposition to increase the range of their combat operations around Jalalabad and some other provincial centers of Afghanistan.

In the course of these visits, as has now become clear, Schwarzkopf, followed by Tomsen, visited a series of military installations in the region of the Pakistani-Indian and Pakistani-Afghan border and met leaders of the hardline Afghan opposition. The U.S. military figures called for combining the partisan war against Kabul with the formation of regular rebel military units under the aegis of an "all-Afghan command."

As we have learned from informed foreign diplomats in Islamabad, Schwarzkopf and Tomsen approved the idea of the Pakistani generals to form a new regional military-political bloc under Pakistani leadership, known in official documents as a "regional consensus." In the opinion of foreign observers, the conducting of major exercises this year in central Pakistan, which will involve local armed forces in close collaboration with the U.S. Central Command (Centcom), represented by General Schwarzkopf, should be viewed in this connection.

USSR, Emirates Talk on Cooperation

LD1207174389 Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—"The Government of the United Arab Emirates pays much attention to the development of businesslike cooperation with the USSR", 'Abd al-Rauf al-Mubarak, deputy minister of trade and economy of the United Arab Emirates, said here today.

He heads the UAE delegation, now in the Soviet Union, which conducted talks today at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations. The Soviet delegation at the talks was headed by Vladimir Mordvinov, deputy minister of foreign economic relations.

During the talks the sides thrashed out a draft agreement on economic, trade and technical cooperation between the USSR and the UAE, which was prepared by the two countries' experts. This document, which is the first of its kind in bilateral relations, is planned to be signed during the visit to the USSR of Sayf al-Jarwan, the UAE minister of the economy and trade, which is planned for next autumn. Under the provisions of the agreement, a treaty on setting up an intergovernmental standing commission on trade and economic cooperation will also be signed.

The sides discussed, among other issues, prospects for signing a protocol on setting up a Soviet trade mission in the United Arab Emirates and a respective mission of the UAE in the Soviet Union. The UAE Foreign Ministry agreed in principle to set up trade departments in the two countries' embassies. Now, the two countries' embassies will be able to consider the issue of those departments' staff and the terms for the signing of the necessary documents.

Damascus Ba'th Official Leads Delegation to USSR

PM1307115689 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jul 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for ties between the CPSU and the Syrian Ba'th Party, a delegation of Ba'th party officials headed by S. al-Abbas, secretary of the Damascus Ba'th Regional Committee, was in the Soviet Union 4-11 July.

The Syrian guests acquainted themselves with the CPSU's and social organizations' work experience in conditions of restructuring. Talks were held at the CPSU Central Committee International Department and Party Building and Cadre Work Department, the Moscow CPSU Oblast Committee, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU], and the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural ties with Foreign Countries. The delegation visited Kiev, where it was received at the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and had meetings in local party organizations.

East Europe

Hungarian Leaders View Bush Visit, U.S. Role

Nyers Cited

OW1307125989 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1035 GMT 13 Jul 89

[From "The World Today" program presented by Vladimir Tsvetov]

[Text] U.S. President Bush's visit to Hungary ends today. Nyers, chairman of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, speaking in Budapest, said that in the cause of creating a modern, competitive economy, Hungary counts on international cooperation, attaching a special significance to the growing role of the United States in this process. Nyers welcomed the Soviet-U.S. dialogue, noting that relations between the USSR and the United States are of determining significance to the situation in Europe.

President Bush announced that Hungary is undergoing a unique experiment by demonstrating its aspiration to develop in the direction of a more open and pluralistic economic and political system. The people of the United States, said the President, are convinced of the need to closely cooperate with Hungary and its leaders in order to facilitate the reforms that are taking place in the country.

Leaders View Results

*PM1307153389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
14 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 1*

[Own Correspondent F. Lukyanov report: "Results of G. Bush's Visit to Hungary"]

[Text] Budapest—President G. Bush's visit to Hungary has generally lived up to the government's expectations, I. Pozsgay, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] Presidium and minister of state, stated at a news conference.

During Bush's meeting with R. Nyers, chairman of the MSZMP, and K. Grosz, party general secretary, the President was given a detailed report on the political and economic reforms in Hungary. The MSZMP leaders stated that the next few months will be crucial to the process of switching to a model of democratic socialism. R. Nyers told the U.S. guest about the nationwide round table talks that are currently being held. During the conversation note was made of the danger of the possible destabilization of the situation in the country, which would be bound to have an adverse effect not only on the situation in Eastern Europe but on Soviet-U.S. relations as well.

Many people in Hungary made no secret of the fact that they were expecting the visit to produce real accords in the economic sphere, which would help to resolve the difficult tasks now facing the country's economy. On the eve of the visit, M. Nemeth, the head of the Hungarian Government, stated that he would like to win the U.S. Administration's support in developing relations with international currency and financial organizations, to attract the attention of U.S. capital, and to help reorganize the structures of industrial production by the creation of joint ventures.

Opposition parties and organizations have put forward their plan for economic recovery and have stated that its implementation requires a "miniature Marshall Plan" worth around $4 billion. Some opposition figures seemed sure that Bush would be bringing just such a plan with him to Hungary. As should have been expected such assumptions were unfounded.

Giving his impressions of the meeting with the President, M. Nemeth stated that Bush repeated numerous times that he had come to Hungary not to impose his model of development or his system here, not to prescribe how others should live, and still less to compete with the Soviet leader or to split the Eastern bloc countries. Each people and government must choose its own path and model of development, the President stated. In M. Nemeth's words, Bush also stressed the need for the processes of the reforms in Eastern Europe, including the Soviet Union, Poland, and Hungary, to receive adequate political, financial, and economic support from all countries of the world to ensure their successful and peaceful completion.

Of course, particular interest was generated by Bush's speech at the Karl Marx University of Economic Sciences in Budapest, where the President was due to announce a specific program for cooperation with Hungary for the next few years. He promised to take additional steps to support Hungarian economic reforms. Primarily this concerned the granting to Hungary—the first among socialist countries—of most-favored nation status in long-term trade. However, the President also linked the granting of this status to Hungary's adoption of the law on emigration which is still in preparation. The President gave an assurance that at the forthcoming meeting of the leaders of the [Group of] "Seven" in Paris he would seek the granting of special economic and technical assistance to Hungary and Poland. There was also a promise of $25 million for the financing of Hungarian private enterprises. In the President's words, the United States is ready to ease its tough customs regulations and adopt a law to encourage U.S. capital investments in the Hungarian economy.

The U.S. President also had an unscheduled meeting with representatives of opposition parties and organizations. He expressed the hope that the talks in Budapest will help make the country's reforms irreversible.

Today, the day of the eminent guest's departure, it may be assumed that his visit will not only serve to improve relations between Hungary and the United States but will also contribute to the general improvement of East-West relations.

Budapest Radio Cites Gerasimov on Bush Visit

*LD1207214489 Budapest Domestic Service
in Hungarian 1630 GMT 12 Jul 89*

[Text] In Moscow, the most renowned spokesman has spoken to our correspondent, Jozsef Barath.

[Barath] Gennadiy Gerasimov, Soviet foreign Ministry spokesman, had not yet received hard information from Budapest when I called him on the telephone. For this reason, I asked him to tell me what he thought about the fact of the visit.

[Begin Gerasimov recording in Russian followed by Hungarian translation] This visit is a very good thing. It promotes the development of relations between the European countries and the United States. It reduces the conflicts between the blocs in Europe. Gorbachev was in Britain, West Germany and France, too. Bush was in Poland, and now he has arrived in Hungary. In our opinion this process indicates the normal course of things. [end recording]

Commentator Urges Poles To 'Count on Own Strength'

*LD1207225689 Moscow International Service
in Polish 1400 GMT 12 Jul 89*

[Symon Afonin commentary]

[Text] The Soviet mass media has reported on the course of President George Bush's visit in Poland in great detail. This is fully justified, since the significance of the visit extends beyond the framework of exclusively bilateral Poland-U.S. relations.

I would like to bring out strongly two aspects of the Polish-U.S. summit. The first is the international aspect. The PAP communique published at the end of the visit emphasizes that of key significance for the contemporary world is the union of efforts and cooperation of all countries, regardless of the form and social system. These aims are served both by the proposals of the Warsaw Pact and of NATO. Taking into account the strategic significance of Central Europe, of particular importance are proposals directed toward the reduction of armaments and the creation of confidence-building measures in this region. Poland has already put forward such proposals. The ideas of the Jaruzelski plan, the specific steps made by Poland within the framework of the reduction of its military budget and armed forces are well known. Thus, Soviet observers assess the Polish-U.S. summit, in a totally justified manner, as one more step on the road toward strengtening peace and stability in Europe.

And now, about the second aspect of the meeting in Warsaw, about the internal aspect. I quote a pronouncement by a correspondent of the IZVESTIYA newspaper, who writes: Of course, the congratulations and acceptance addressed to Poland are pleasant for the Polish side; however, not only compliments but also understanding for the country's economic situation were expected of the visit of the distinguished guest from across the ocean. Relatively recently, it seemed that from the moment changes occured in Poland which would be viewed favorably in the United States, considerably greater financial aid would immediately be granted to Poland. It is difficult, therefore, not to agree with Wieslaw Gornicki who, at a briefing in Warsaw, pointed to the contrast between the U.S. declarations and the actual dimensions of the planned aid for Poland. Those who expected that this would be a golden deluge made a mistake.

Why am I speaking about this? By no means so as to reproach the U.S. President. I simply count myself among those in our two countries who express sincere recognition for the concept of extensive international cooperation, not forgetting at the same time that, above all, we must count on our own strength.

Hungarian-Austrian Fences Termed 'Obsolete'

LD0107152689 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 30 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] [presenter] Here is a report by our Budapest correspondent Yevgeniy Shirokov on the latest events in Hungary's socio-political life. [Shirokov] [passage omitted] The party of Hungarian Communists—on the threshold of its 14th congress, to be held in October, and also of forthcoming parliamentary elections—is fine-tuning its program of action and formulating its campaign tactics to achieve victory at the elections.

Another event that attracted much attention was the start of the dismantling of the strip of border obstacles on the Hungarian-Austrian border. In the presence of numerous foreign journalists, the Hungarian and Austrian foreign ministers, Gyula Horn and Alois Mock, cut the barbed wire that was erected in the fifties. The fences have become obsolete, and not just from the technical point of view, but also in a political sense, Gyula Horn noted at a press conference held by the two ministers in the Hungarian border town of Sopron. As was noted, obsolete obstacles in thinking are also being dismantled. Another step is being taken toward greater openness and confidence between states. Replying to a question from a Western correspondent about whether Hungary intended leaving the Wasaw Pact, Gyula Horn declared that the defensive alliance was set up as a counterbalance to the NATO military bloc: There are no circumstances or reasons to drop Hungary's participation in the Warsaw Pact. [video: Shirokov in Budapest street. Ministers cutting barbed wire with wire cutters, and shaking hands. Shots of press conference]

Polish Politburo Examines Party's Current Tasks

PM0607092989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jul 89 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Preparing for the Parliament Session"]

[Text] Warsaw, 4 Jul—Protection of the country's highest interests, the working people's interests, and the socialist state's stability will determine the parliamentary activity of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] and its deputies in the Sejm, the PZPR Central Committee Politburo has pointed out. After familiarizing itself with the preparations for the first session of the Polish Parliament, it emphasized that the formation of the Polish Sejm and Senate marks a new stage in the country's political life. Readiness for political cooperation and for reasonable compromise is now becoming a measure of the responsibility before the nation of all the forces represented in the National Assembly. They are faced with the need to effectively resolve important problems with a great degree of complexity. The most important thing now is to quickly form the leading organs of state power and accelerate the reforms—above all, those which will ensure that the economic difficulties that have piled up are overcome.

The complex interlacing of political and socioeconomic events today makes special demands on the leadership and the more than 2-million-strong community of PZPR members. The Politburo appeals to them to be guided resolutely and consistently by the decisions of the 10th PZPR Central Committee Plenum, displaying bold innovation and prudence and implementing close partnership cooperation with the coalition, as well as constructive accords with the parliamentary opposition.

Unity of action among the leadership, party organs at all levels, and the thousands of primary party organizations and the consolidation of PZPR members around the reforming line of the 10th plenum are of key significance today. Only a party strong in its unity can guarantee the socialist state's socialist development. It is obliged to draw up and, jointly with its parliamentary partners, implement a specific program to surmount the difficulties against which the country is struggling. The party's standing in our political life and its influence and public prestige depend on this, the Politburo points out. The demand of the times today is close contact with working people, responsible, disciplined actions, and the desire to rise above grudges and emotions. Understood like this, the party's unity will ensure its ability effectively to influence the course of events and the situation's successful development and to hone the practice of the functioning of socialist parliamentary democracy in the interests of the people and the people's state.

Initial Meetings of New Polish Parliament Reported

PM1207082989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
7 Jul 89 Second Edition p 7

[TASS correspondent V. Volkov report specially for PRAVDA: "Sejm and Senate Sittings"]

[Text] Warsaw, 6 Jul—The first sittings of the Polish Sejm and Senate have ended in the Polish capital. Despite the fact that it was mostly organizational and procedural questions that were discussed, the interest of the country's population in the work of the supreme organs of state power was enormous. After all, for the first time representatives of the constructive opposition, elected from the list of the "Solidarity" Citizens' Committee, took their places on the benches of the Sejm and in the Senate alongside the representatives of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] and the allied parties in the coalition. This is clear evidence of the democratization of the electoral system and the country's political life implemented on the initiative of the PZPR on the basis of the PZPR Central Committee 10th Plenum's decisions.

The first sitting of the Sejm took place in a spirit of constructive cooperation and of the political culture which was already apparent during the many weeks' work of the "roundtable."

Even on the most complex questions on the agenda compromise decisions were reached in advance, during the sittings of the deputies' clubs and meetings between their leaders. Thus a representative of the United Peasant Party, Professor Mikolaj Kozakiewicz, a 65-year-old sociologist well known for his sharp, critical speeches at sittings of the previous Sejm and one of the two candidates elected from the national electoral list, was elected by a large majority of votes to the important post of Polish Sejm marshal. The posts of Sejm vice marshals went to representatives of the PZPR, the Democratic Party, and the Citizens' Parliamentary Club, which unites the deputies connected with "Solidarity."

The forces represented in the new Sejm are also reflected in the composition of the State Tribunal, an organ which, under the constitution, is vested with powers to hear cases if top officials, including the Polish president, are called to account.

The Senate, in which 99 places out of 100 belong to the opposition (the other seat is occupied by the independent H. Stoklosa, billionaire owner of a private firm), did not, naturally, experience much difficulty in electing its presidium. The 64-year-old Prof Andrzej Stelmachowski, a lawyer and well known public figure, was elected Senate marshal.

The Sejm and the Senate confirmed the results of the elections to the Polish parliament at their sittings; the deputies and senators were sworn in and are now commencing everyday parliamentary activity.

It is notable that there are many "novices" in the Sejm: 422 of the 460 deputies will be participating in its activity for the first time.

Straight after the session of the Sejm, the leaders of the PZPR Deputies' Club held their first press conference. Addressing it, Club Chairman Marian Orzechowski, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, noted that although the PZPR no longer has a majority in the Sejm, its 173 deputies form the largest group of parliamentarians, which imposes a special responsibility.

Two key problems of statewide scale and significance face us now: The election of the Polish president and formation of the government, M. Orzechowski said. Obviously, in view of the visit to Bucharest by the Polish party and government leadership for the conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee and the imminent visit of U.S. President G. Bush to Poland, the election of the Polish president will take place after those two events.

Serbian-Turkish Battle Has Lesson for SFRY

PM1007110989 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Jul 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS correspondent V. Kuznetsov dispatch: "Review of the Centuries: Celebrations Held in Serbia To Mark the 600th Anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo"]

[Text] Belgrade—"Six centuries are watching you" was the inscription on the placard that greeted those arriving at the field where 600 years ago an enormous Turkish Army under the command of Sultan Murad and his sons Jakub and Bayezid did battle with the Serbs on St Vitus' Day, 15 June, 1389, your TASS correspondent in Yugoslavia reports to the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA editorial office.

Last Wednesday [28 June] around 1.5 million people from various parts of the country assembled on the field of Kosovo, located 9 km from Pristina, capital of Kosovo Autonomous Province, to take part in the jubilee celebrations, mark one of the most heroic chapters in the Serbian people's history, and pay homage to the courage of the soldiers who gave their all in the battle against the larger Turkish Army. Many people brought their children.

The Serbs were defending not just their freedom but the freedom of Europe, which was experiencing the Renaissance at that time, had founded great cities, and was developing trade, education, science, and culture. This was stated at a ceremonial session held in Belgrade by Desimir Jevtic, president of the Serbian Assembly Executive Council.

The head of the Serbian parliament stressed that the Battle of Kosovo was one of the most important waged in the war between the Orient and the West, between Christianity and Islam. The Serbian people, who have undergone much suffering and humiliation, are proud of the exploit and their heroes and their past, which have helped maintain national dignity and unite forces to win freedom from foreign enslavers.

It would have been difficult to find another place in Yugoslavia where Serbia's history was so vividly on display. The chronicle of the Serbs' heroic struggle against invaders passed before the eyes of the hundreds of thousands of citizens gathered for the celebration like an historical kaleidoscope: Leading artists recited poetry, well-known groups performed ancient dances, and early mass was held at the monastery, with His Holiness the Patriarch German, leader of the Serbian Orthodox Church, taking part. All these festivities were broadcast from morning through late evening on Belgrade radio and the country's central television service.

Slobodan Milosevic, president of the Serbian Presidium, addressed those gathered on Kosovo Field, where SFRY leaders headed by Janez Drnovsek, the country's president, and numerous foreign delegations were present. He summed up, as it were, the celebrations marking the battle's 600th jubilee. Yugoslavia's future, the republic leader stressed, lies in the hands of all the peoples and ethnic groups living within it. Equitable relations and concord among them are a necessary condition of the country's existence and further prosperity.

PRAVDA Reports on Turkish Exodus From Bulgaria

PM3006112189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent L. Zhmyrev "reportage from the Bulgarian-Turkish border": "At the Crossroads of Destiny"]

[Text] Kapitan-Andreevo (checkpoint), Sofia—The country's attention is focused on Kapitan-Andreevo, a small settlement on the Maritsa River on the Bulgarian-Turkish border. Tens of thousands of Bulgarian migrants have hastened here, taking advantage of the right to cross the border in accordance with a new law on passports adopted recently in Bulgaria.

According to press reports and the evidence of witnesses, on some days in June the line waiting at the borders stretched for several kilometers. Thousands of vehicles had accumulated in parking lots adjacent to Kapitan-Andreevo. Many had traveled a long way from their homes to the border. The newspaper RABOTNICHESKO DELO reported, for example, that 10 children have been born in the columns of migrants since the beginning of June...

For nearly 300 kilometers from Sofia to the border you drive along an excellent road, filled mainly with vans of various foreign makes bearing West German numbers. They are Turkish "Gastarbeiter" (they say there are around 2 million) traveling from the FRG to spend their leave in Turkey and then back via Bulgaria.

The atmosphere on the road and in cities and settlements is generally calm. Only in the okrug center of Khaskovo, next to the "Aida" hotel, where I spent the night, were paratroopers on patrol dressed in protective overalls and carrying short-barreled submachineguns.

On Saturday, when I arrived in Kapitan-Andreevo, the column of migrants was comparatively small. A few hundred vehicles—enormous trucks filled with household items, taxicabs, and private "Moskviches," "Volgas," and "Ladas" crammed with women and children, things, and food for the journey.

Newly trampled grass and rubbish at the roadside and traces of recent bonfires showed that people had waited there a while. The traffic is now orderly. Stores are selling consumer goods and fruit and vegetables literally 100 meters from the checkpoint.

What made people give up their homes amd their jobs and radically change their lives? A difficult question.... I approached a group of migrants sitting by the road. They had put up a tent and spread out mattresses and camping equipment. They were mainly women, old men, and children. I talked with a man of about 40—a quiet, calm man (he refused to give his name):

"We are from the village of Popgruevo, which is in Tervel Municipality, in the former Tolbukhin Okrug. The whole village has moved out—240 people. This is our 11th day on the road.... Many have relatives in Turkey. We are traveling in hope and fear: What awaits us? I am from a family of machine operators and I can also work as a lathe hand, fitter, and carpenter. I have worked in the USSR, CSSR, and GDR. I hope to find work in Turkey...."

I walked over to an enormous covered truck. Through a gap in the tarpaulin I noticed the legs of a table, a television set, a refrigerator, and even a homemade stove. I talked with the driver. He was from Varna Oblast, not a migrant: "I am Bulgarian." His job is to take the household belongings across the border, unload them, and go back. Why are people leaving?

"Each has his own reason and they all have a common reason. Perhaps they are offended at having to change their names.... They are mainly from villages, remote areas. They don't know what to expect...."

I had another conversation at a table in a border cafe. Two young women were feeding their children. I was able to talk with one of them.

"What is my name? My parents called me Gyulbyus.... At work everyone called me Galya or Galina. I am a weaver, we live in the village of Gorno-Prakhovo, not far from Mlechino in the former Kurdzhali Okrug. It is our third day traveling to the border. Yes, there are relatives in Turkey, but a long way from here...."

These meetings give some idea of what is happening, of people's mood. If it were not for the old women's dark headscarves and the equal mix of Turkish and Bulgarian, you would not notice anything particularly "oriental." The tired, worried faces of the adults, restless children. It all looked ordinary somehow, humdrum. Another vehicle approaches the checkpoint, the check and inspection is over in an instant and the next vehicle is already at the barrier. On the day I wrote these lines the total number of migrants reached just under 70,000. That many in less than a month. That is, 2,000 and more a day.

The Bulgarian public has started to voice concern in connection with the drain on the workforce. In the countryside people are abandoning homes, livestock, fields, and tobacco plantations and vineyards. In the cities too. According to press data, at the major "Madar" motor vehicle plant in Shumen 24 percent of jobs are vacant, while the figure is 59 percent at the "Partizanka" tobacco factory, 37 percent at the "Almaz" state firm, and 49 percent at the "Klokotnitsa" agrarian-industrial complex in Khaskovo Oblast.

Together with a small group of Bulgarian and foreign journalists I went to a press conference at which statements were made about the events by Bulgarian Deputy Foreign Minister I. Ganev and senior officials of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, internal affairs organs, and prosecutor's office.

It was announced that there have been 250,000 applications to leave for Turkey. More than 400 million lev has been removed from savings banks and this figure could reach 1 billion.

At the press conference, as in the Bulgarian press, alarm was expressed about various widespread rumors, about increased anti-Bulgarian propaganda in the West, and so forth. It was stressed that Bulgaria favors dialogue with Turkey, provided there are no preliminary conditions.

What caused the tension and such an acute exacerbation of the situation? Could it have been foreseen and prevented? Questions, questions.... The answer will be provided by future events and a thorough analysis of what is happening.

...Before we left Kapitan-Andreevo there was a thunderstorm. As often happens in the Balkans, the clouds came from nowhere, lightning strafed the sky, and the ground was lashed by a torrential downpour.

From the window of the editorial office's "Volga" I saw my new friends from Popgruevo sitting by the road, huddled close together, holding a piece of polyethylene over their heads. The rain pelted down, making puddles beneath their feet. The children's dark eyes peered fearfully out from under the adults' arms.

The crossroads of thousands of destinies Their homes are behind them; what awaits them up ahead?

West Europe

Yakovlev Addresses Meeting on French Revolution

PM1307102989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
12 Jul 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Glorious Date in Mankind's History"]

[Text] The Great French Revolution was a new starting point for Europe and the entire world. On 14 July 1789 the people of Paris stormed the Bastille, and its fall was a symbol of the elimination of the feudal system. The bicentennial of the French people's victory over absolutism is being extensively celebrated in our country. A ceremonial meeting of representatives of the Soviet public, held in Moscow 11 July, was devoted to this outstanding historical event.

The presidium comprised E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister; A.N. Yakovlev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Ye.M. Primakov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union; eminent scientists and cultural figures, representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations, and guests from France.

The meeting was opened by Academician V.N. Kudryavtsev, chairman of the USSR Academy of Sciences All-Union Organizing Committee for the Jubilee Celebration, and vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The report "The Great French Revolution and Modern Times" was delivered by A.N. Yakovlev. He said in particular:

The profound importance of the momentous event for mankind that the Great French Revolution undoubtedly was, lies in the fact that it affirmed the great principles of free thinking that have become part and parcel of world culture.

The 1789 revolution was the immortal creation of the French people. But this event, which 200 years ago hit a monarchical Europe like a bolt from the blue, expressed the needs not just of France, but of all Europe, and with it the entire civilized world.

It has taken its place in history not just as a successful coup—there have been many of those. Not even as a dramatic breakthrough to a new society—there were earlier such breakthroughs in certain countries, although they did not take the same searing form.

The essence of the difference is that it was able to focus in its spiritual arsenal and practice and, one way or another, interpret the most important achievements of European social experience, science, and social awareness. It integrated the fruits of the Enlightenment, which prepared the way for profound intellectual and moral changes in history.

It is true that in terms of its results the French Revolution was bourgeois. But that is only part of the truth. From the outset the revolution was a people's revolution, not just in terms of its aspirations, but also as a result of the active participation of the broad masses in it. Its own dialectics are that it underwent development, headed by the bourgeoisie but also in confrontation with it.

The explosive and creative entrance of the people into political practice filled the progressive ideas of the Enlightenment with material content and formulated various versions of the initial designs for a new social and political system.

The people's masses were striving not just for political equality, but for social equality. At that time and under those conditions the surge for social justice could not succeed. But it became a powerful springboard for the revolutionary process, and in the future stimulated the development of socialism as a social teaching and practice.

Pooling the ideas of humanism and justice with the principles of democracy and people's sovereignty, the revolution laid the foundations for today's sense of justice and political standards, and served as a unifying starting point for the civilized world while retaining its national, social, and cultural diversity.

The authors of the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen, sensing the oppression of the feudal state elevated above man, resolutely reversed the system of values, establishing that the "aim of each state union is to safeguard the natural and inalienable rights of man." The young bourgeois class produced a document of such power and content that it went far beyond the bounds of the interests of a single class and embodied common human, moral, and legal imperatives. And through this its content came into contact with the interests of future eras' progressive social forces.

The Jacobin declarations of the rights of man and the citizen and the 1793 Constitution contained, although they were not enforced, a list of provisions which seem to be the direct precursors of the international charters guaranteeing human rights which have nowadays been approved by the entire world community.

The modern concept of human rights, whose foundations date back to the French Revolution, carries the clear imprint of the ideas of another great revolution—the October Revolution. I am thinking above all of the principle of real safeguards for rights. This includes the resolute rejection of any colonial exceptions from the principle of the universality of human rights. It includes the struggle for respect for the people's rights as a prerequisite for freedom of the individual. It also includes giving a person's social and economic interests the nature of inalienable rights.

October widened the humanistic horizons of the French Revolution, but, of course, did not place any limit on them. The time will never come when it can be said that individual rights and freedoms have become perfect and their further advance and development can therefore be halted. In this sense the problem of human rights is eternal, just as the question of a limit on mankind's progress is eternal.

A.N. Yakovlev dwelt on the lessons which can be drawn today from the experience of the French Revolution and the revolutionary movement of the subsequent 2 centuries. The dialectics of words and deeds, declarations and actions, intentions and reality; the problem of the constant choice between the egoistic interests of the few and the interests of society as a whole; the overcoming of the lure of Messianism; the continuation in international relations of the principles written on the revolution's banner; the art of relating revolution and evolution in the practice of creating something new and preventing counterrevolutionary throwbacks—these are subjects that require attention, analysis, and investigation.

The peoples cannot and must not pay any longer with blood and suffering for a lack of social knowledge, much less for group egoism—from whatever quarter. Recognition of this moral imperative is one of the conditions of social and historical liberation.

When today we are tortured by confusion about how the country and the Leninist party could have accepted the dictatorship of mediocrity and tolerated the Stalin years and rivers of innocent blood, we cannot fail to see that the reasons which provided fertile ground for authoritarianism and despotism included an unhealthy faith in the possibility of expediting sociohistoric development, and an idealization of revolutionary violence going back to the middle of the 19th century and the very roots of the European revolutionary tradition.

All the experience accumulated since then and the changes that have taken place in the world compel us to rethink the permissibility and limits of violence in history. Not in the past, which cannot be changed, but today and the in the future, where there can be no place for violence. The idea of violence as the midwife of history is exhausted, as is the idea of the power of dictatorship that depends directly on violence.

In the thousands of years of civilization nobody anywhere has ever been able to build a society worthy of people through violence, which engenders only violence. The fact that at each turning point in development civilization has inevitably embraced the idea of nonviolence is by no means accidental. From the biblical "Thou shalt not kill!" to the nonnuclear and nonviolent world. They are united by common human principles, which are the only possible basis for a worthy and spiritually saturated life for all people.

One understands the impatience which tinges the desire for progress. One understands the desire to skip wearisome time barriers without a second thought. But liberation experience teaches the absolute need to weigh up, above all, the potential price of progress. And not just on the historical time scale, but with regard to real, living people thirsting for happiness. Revolutions should be humane and should care for people, their lives and values, and for the spiritual and moral riches of society.

The heightened state of revolutionary expectation in the first half of the 20th century has given way to Marxists' more sober view of the prospects for radical social transformations in the modern world. A straightforward and simplistic approach has given way to real ideas in which revolution and evolution are not juxtaposed but interwoven. The historical experience of the past few decades has widened our horizons and altered the whole system of coordinates by which the development of modern civilization is evaluated.

The social revolutions of modern times face more complex tasks than the revolutions of the past. The profound modernization of human civilization on just and humane principles proclaimed by the great revolutionary democrats of the past and embodied in common human ideas and values has become urgent.

Almost 130 years divide the two great revolutions of the modern era—the French and Russian Revolutions. The driving force behind the former and its impact on the historical process to a considerable extent predetermined the makeup and content of the latter. Needless to say, the storming of the Winter Palace was not and could not be a direct continuation of the storming of the Bastille. Moreover, in many substantive respects, October was at the same time a rejection and an enrichment of the French Revolution. But it is indisputable that both events were part of the same trend: the democratization of social life and its building on the basis of justice, equality, and recognition of the fact that only the activities of the masses are capable of successfully implementing this building.

Soviet people, the descendants of those who carried out the great revolution in 1917, are brought closer to its predecessor—the French Revolution—by the revolutionary upsurge currently taking place in our country. We are by no means stretching the truth by calling restructuring a revolution.

By its very nature restructuring is a return to the historically self-propelled nature of socialism and to today's realities, and produces imperatives [imperativnost] and a sense of renewal out of the combination of the two. It sees possible alternatives—destructive alternatives—and strives to prevent their advance. It mobilizes socialist society's spiritual potential, but also relies on the achievements of world ideas and practice. It is guided by common human interests, but also by the entirely mundane concerns of specific people.

The First Congress of USSR People's Deputies can and should undoubtedly become a decisive stage in the history of our revolution. There were many difficulties during it. First and foremost these are probably linked not even so much with the economy or the tragic legacy of past decades as with the need to sharply break with stereotypes engendered in social awareness and behavior by this legacy. The discussion at the Congress, which has begun its work, has dealt them a tangible blow. And, at the same time, it again encourages society to turn to the analysis and reanalysis of the ideas which are at the foundation of all mankind's previous attempts to restructure its life along just and democratic lines.

Both the French and the Russian Revolutions exerted, each in their own way, a profound influence on the contemporary understanding of progress. This is an immense historical asset. But time is implacable, the world is changing before our very eyes.

The new world also requires a new philosophy. We have called it new political thinking, which we have made the basis of perestroyka, the renewal of socialist society, and the renewal of international relations. Like nature, society demands a careful and attentive attitude, great wisdom, and circumspection in implementing profound transformations. Life takes harsh revenge on those who thoughtlessly and unthinkingly smash everything in their way.

The experience of revolutions and the experience of the 20th century demonstrate the supreme truth of the idea that rejection does not mean destruction. Rejection is a kind of integration into the new, in which a phenomenon, while continuing to exist, works on the basis of new, progressive, and advanced social links and trends.

Civilization was created by an accumulation of material and spiritual wealth and its new social organization. It was not created by the fact that mankind periodically returned to the desert and started everything over. Such immoral ideas are precisely typical of those who are prepared to turn the masses' revolutionary upsurge and their desire for a more dignified life into a riot of base passions and destruction.

In the modern world there is only one road to progress, and therefore, to freedom, equality and brotherhood—cooperation, joint development, and joint creativity of all peoples and states making up the world community. That is how Soviet people currently see their road to the creation of a genuinely democratic and humane society.

As historic experience is accumulated our understanding of the events of the past becomes increasingly deeper and stereoscopic. Turning to the majestic historical drama known as the Great French Revolution, we see the roots of many achievements, problems, and collisions in modern civilization, A.N. Yakovlev went on to say.

It is well known that its spiritual precursors—the great thinkers of the Enlightenment—allocated to reason the role of supreme arbiter called upon to decide arguments engendered by social contradictions, national enmity, intolerance, superstition, and ignorance. Nowadays this dream is likely to acquire real outlines. It is reason that calls for civilization to be saved through recognition of the priority of common human values and interests, through the assertion of civilized international relations, and through the resolution of global problems on which the destiny of all people depend. We were fated to discover what we believe to be an inevitable period of history when wildness and violence give way to reason, a recognized and highly moral will, humanism, and responsibility.

We have been celebrating interesting dates in recent years: the millennium of the coming of Christianity to Russia, the bicentennial of the Great French Revolution, and the centennial of the Socialist International. For all their differences they are connected by the quest for moral, social, and political foundations of human existence.

And the recognition of the importance of these and other landmarks in world culture is a specific and meaningful expression of the fact that a new day has dawned in our revolution. We value and understand the diverse unity of human culture and history, and, consequently, we also value and understand the need to unite all who share the ideals and goals of humanism.

It is not just revolutions that bring the peoples of the USSR and France closer together. Over the past few centuries the French and Russian cultures have experienced tumultuous development, mutually enriching each other. It is hardly possible to find a major thinker, writer, painter, or musician in our country who is unaware of or lacks feeling for French culture. This can equally be said with the same degree of justice of French cultural and artistic figures. We hardly need to name them—they are well known. As is the fact that many wonderful books on France and by French writers are published in the Soviet Union. Many young people have increased their knowledge in both countries. France has provided a refuge for many Russian people who have found themselves abroad.

M.S. Gorbachev's recent visit showed yet again just how spiritually close France and the USSR are, and how firmly they hew to the sensible and long-standing traditions of mutual understanding and cooperation.

We have to live in this world, A.N. Yakovlev said in conclusion, we have to augment its richness. And in whatever point of history we may find ourselves, we value and cherish the efforts of those whose genius and courage move civilization forward. The Great French Revolution has acquired the right to immortality.

The influence of the Great French Revolution on subsequent people's movements in the world was discussed by T. de Bose [name as transliterated], head of the french delegation and secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry; A.O. Chubaryan, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences General History Institute; the French writer R. Debre; M.A. Krutogolov, vice president of the "USSR-France" Society; and J.-M. Merillon, French ambassador to the Soviet Union. The speeches stressed that the slogan of the revolution—"Liberty, Equality, Fraternity"—is now addressed not just to each individual in France, but to all countries and peoples. It finds its new and contemporary embodiment in the concept of the all-European home, in the idea of a world community of states, and in the philosophical understanding of the single fate of all mankind.

PRAVDA Assesses Gorbachev's France Visit

PM1307085789 PRAVDA in Russian
12 Jul 89 Second Edition p1

[Editorial: "To the Benefit of Europe and Peace"]

[Text] The official visit by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to the French Republic on 4-6 July has prompted a broad response far beyond the limits of the Soviet and French borders. Even now the world press is still commenting on its results and analyzing the impact which the talks with President Francois Mitterrand and the meetings with other French officials and public figures and the leaders of the Council of Europe could have both on bilateral Soviet-French ties and on the entire atmosphere in Europe and the world as a whole.

For all the different aspects touched on by these commentaries, there is one general theme which comes up more than any other: The visit to France not only demonstrated the importance of progressively developing relations between our countries but also showed their lasting significance for all-European consolidation. Perhaps it could not have been otherwise. The subject of continuing the all-European process begun by the Helsinki conference, imparting new substance to this process, and ensuring that Europe fulfills its historical destiny was raised in the Elysee Palace, in the great lecture theater of the Sorbonne, and in the sessions hall of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly. In this respect, both sides spoke of the unique opportunity now in Europe's grasp. An opportunity to move away from the era of mistrust and confrontation toward really lasting peace based on good-neighborliness and a balance of real, correctly understood interests of every nation and state.

This transition has been made possible by the qualitative change in the whole international climate in Europe. In the east and the west of the continent, Europeans are beginning to increasingly clearly appreciate their communality, their individuality, and the interdependent futures of the states on this continent. A decisive role in this evolution is played by the new political thinking, which is smashing the old stereotypes that consolidated the division of Europe into opposing camps. It is liberating the Europeans from the chains of the "Soviet military threat" which fettered their independence and is opening up freedom for more constructive policies and for an unbiased approach to topical problems of the present day. One can say that it is making it possible—and this was clearly confirmed during the visit—to fully realize all the potential of independent West European thinking.

France rightly holds a special place in building East-West relations and in the process of Europe's transition from the dogmas of the "cold war" period to the new political thinking. Even during the time of President de Gaulle, France and the Soviet Union took the first steps for Europe to begin to feel itself to be not simply a geographical concept of territory stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals but a single region populated by nations joined by common bonds of history and culture and a common destiny. The division of Europe is not an eternal inevitability but just one of the stages in its dramatic history. And it is perfectly logical that France and the Soviet Union, which initiated the favorable changes in Europe, should now, when the new political thinking has created the appropriate preconditions for this, combine their efforts in building a common European home.

It should be pointed out in this connection that relations between the Soviet Union and France, particularly in recent years, have been based on the desire of our two countries to build good-neighborly collaboration. And this, in turn, is being encouraged by the development of varied ties in the most varied spheres: From trade to cultural exchange, from the creation of joint enterprises to joint space flights, and from political consultations on burning problems of the world situation to student exchange. This trend was also reflected in the recent visit.

An unprecedented package of agreements was signed—more than 20 documents in all—designed to further expand ties and cooperation. They provide for the involvement of French firms in building airports and hotels, metallurgical plants, and modern hospitals in the Soviet Union. Capital, equipment, and technology from France will be used to computerize Soviet banks and savings banks, produce the next generation of television sets, organize the manufacture of new packing materials, improve environmental protection methods, and develop the publishing business. There are plans for another flight by a French cosmonaut on one of our spaceships.

New meaning was also given to political cooperation between the Soviet Union and France during the visit. The leaders of the two countries, which are both permanent members of the UN Security Council and nuclear powers and, by virtue of this fact, bear special responsibility for the fate of peace, discussed the problems of reducing arms and armed forces in Paris. The development of the situation in various regions of the world, particularly where hotbeds of conflict have yet to be eliminated, was also subjected to close scrutiny. The sides reached the conclusion that the atmosphere is now ripe for holding an international conference on the Near East. They issued a joint statement on Lebanon. They agreed to promote the negotiating process concerning the settlement of the Cambodia problem.

Soviet-French ties in the military sphere were restored at a high level during these days in Paris. Relations between the two countries' armed forces, severed in the last decade, carry considerable potential for discussing and comparing military doctrines, enhancing the predictability factor, and, if you like, even destroying the infamous "enemy image" with which some wanted to divide our peoples—former allies in arms during the World War II years—and set them in opposition to one another.

At the same time, the historical traditions of mutual interest, respect, and liking and the long-standing cultural bonds of our countries' peoples were fully apparent during the visit to France. Wherever the Soviet guests went, they were greeted with warmth and open hearts. There were also, of course, people opposed to improvement in Soviet-French relations who tried to cloud the atmosphere of the visit and belittle its significance. Even before the talks in Paris began, some predicted a "cool reception" for the Soviet guest, tried to sow mistrust for the policies of the Soviet Union, and endeavored to distort the point of the restructuring processes taking place in our country. However, the desire of senior political and social figures, representatives of science and culture, and the broadest strata of French society to draw closer to our country and promote our democratization of every sphere of life overturned these attempts.

France and the Soviet Union thereby reaffirmed that the healthy development of ties between states belonging to different social systems is not only possible but necessary. That it can contribute to general improvement in the climate in Europe and throughout the world without affecting the aspirations and interests of third countries. And that a transition from watchful, albeit peaceful coexistence to genuine, good neighborly joint existence of states in East and West is possible in the future.

Parliamentary Delegation Leaves for Paris

LD1007085689 Moscow TASS in English 0701 GMT 10 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 10 TASS—A Soviet parliamentary delegation left Moscow for Paris today on an official visit at the invitation of the Assembly of the Western European Union.

The delegation is led by Vladimir Kravets, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Committee for International Affairs and foreign ministers of the Ukraine.

North Atlantic Assembly Delegation Departs

LD0807155789 Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT 8 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 8 TASS—A delegation of the North Atlantic Assembly, headed by President Patrick Duffy, left Moscow today. It had stayed in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

'Z' Bank Signs Agreement With USSR Bank

AU1007094689 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 10 Jul 89 p 9

["dom" report: "Z Bank Cooperates With USSR Savings Bank"]

[Text] Vienna—A cooperation agreement between the "Z" bank and the USSR Savings Bank was recently signed in Moscow. Among other things, the "Z" bank will provide assistance to the Soviet financial institution in the development of cashless payments and the introduction of credit cards. The common financing of joint ventures is planned.

The savings bank was founded in 1988 as a result of the decentralization of the Soviet banking system. It has 80,000 branches.

Adamishin Confers With Portuguese Official

PM1207131989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS "Official Announcement"]

[Text] Lisbon, 8 Jul—On his way to Luanda A.L. Adamishin [special representative of the Soviet leadership and deputy foreign minister] stopped off in Lisbon and met with Jose Maria Sherman de Macedo, general director of the Portuguese Foreign Ministry political office. There was an exchange of opinions on the situation in Southern Africa, in particular the peace settlement in Angola.

Silayev Receives Spanish Industry Minister

LD1207140989 Moscow TASS in English 1254 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—USSR Deputy Prime Minister Ivan Silayev received Claudio Aransadi, Spanish minister of industry and energy, on Wednesday.

Matters of mutual interest concerning cooperation between Soviet and Spanish engineering plants were touched upon during the conversation.

It was pointed out that there were favourable prerequisites for the development of various forms of co-production arrangements and scientific and technological contacts on mutually beneficial terms.

Both sides expressed an intention to promote the development of Soviet-Spanish economic cooperation.

Jose Cuenca, Spanish ambassador to the Soviet Union, took part in the meeting.

Farakos Named New Greek Communist Party Head

LD1207155789 Moscow TASS in English 1418 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Athens July 12 TASS—A plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece has been held here. The plenary meeting took the decision to meet Harilaos Florakis's request to release him of the duties of the party Central Committee general secretary. Member of the Central Committee Politburo, Grigorios Farakos was unanimously elected new general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece.

Harilaos Florakis was elected chairman of the party. The decision to insitute this post was taken at the 12th congress of the Communist Party of Greece but it remained vacant up till now.

The plenary meeting noted Florakis's profound personal contribution to "consolidation of the communist and left movement in the country", the struggle for the interests of the Greek people.

The plenary meeting approved of the Central Committee Politburo's activities in the post-election period and outlined the guidelines for the party's policy in the future.

The new general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece Grigorios Farakos, born in 1923, graduated from a polytechnical institute. He participated in the resistance movement in the years of the Second World War, has been member of the Communist Party of Greece since 1941. He was elected member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece in 1961 and in 1968 he became member of the Central Committee Politburo.

In November 1968 he was arrested by the military junta and sentenced to the life prison term. When the dictatorship was overthrown in 1974 he returned to active political life. In 1974, 1977, 1981 and 1985 he was elected deputy of parliament from the Communist Party of Greece. He is now deputy of the parliament from the coalition of the left and progressive forces. He was general director of "RIZOSPASTIS", the newspaper of the Greek communists, in the recent years.

Minister Kazenin Meets Turkish State Minister

TA1107194689 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1600 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] State Minister Mehmet Yazar has said that the fact that the Bulgarian Government has chosen to pursue a policy that is fully contradictory to the positive developments observed in Turkish-Soviet relations in recent years is very unfortunate and regrettable for the whole of humanity. Yazar held a meeting with Soviet Deputy Minister of Culture Vladislav Kazenin in Ankara. At the meeting Yazar said: We hope that this cultural genocide will end before it creates further problems and suffering. Noting that Turkey attaches importance to increasing cultural relations and conducting research on Turkology with the Soviet Union, Yazar said that talks are in progress in connection with the restoration of the Orkhon monuments, and the organization of exhibitions on caravansaries within the framework of the Silk Road project. Kazenin said the world's nations are faced with ecological problems that can only be solved through cooperation. He added that joint work can be achieved through cultural rapprochement. Kazenin noted that the Soviet Union is always open to Turkish cultural events.

Soviet Meskhetian Turks Hope To Immigrate

NC1007065289 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 3 Jul 89 p 7

[Cenk Baslamis report: "We Wish To Be Sent to Turkey"]

[Excerpts] Moscow—The Meskhetian Turks who fled the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic as a result of the recent incidents in that part of the Soviet Union have launched a multifaceted campaign to be allowed to settle in Turkey. Several leading members of the Meskhetian Turks in the Soviet Union, namely Mecidoglu Iskender, Hayreddinoglu Hamza, Muhlisoglu Hekim, and Badaloglu Ayvaz, briefed MILLIYET on their campaign in Moscow.

The leaders of the Meskhetian Turks have asked to meet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze. Meanwhile, they have met with a number of USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry officials, who said later that the Meskhetian leaders' appeal to be allowed to leave the Soviet Union will be studied. [passage omitted]

The Meskhetian Turks will seek to meet with the representatives of Western countries in the Soviet Union in an effort to make their voice heard around the world. Meanwhile, Mecidoglu Iskender has disclosed that 10,000 Meshkhetian Turks are prepared to leave for Turkey the moment they are allowed to do so. [passage omitted]

Latin America & Caribbean

Delegation Travels to Argentina for Inauguration

LD0507094589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0800 GMT 5 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 5 Jul (TASS)—Today a USSR delegation headed by Georgiy Tarazevich, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, left Moscow for the Republic of Argentina. It will take part in events connected with the inauguration of the new president of Argentina, Carlos Saul Menem.

Menem Receives Delegation

PM1107140389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "USSR Delegation in Argentina"]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Jul—A USSR delegation headed by G.S. Tarazevich, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived here Thursday [6 July] to attend the inauguration of Argentina's President-Elect Carlos Saul Menem.

C. Menem received the Soviet Union's delegation on the same day. During the conversation, which proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere, G.S. Tarazevich presented him with a message from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Argentina's future president, who will be sworn in 8 July, expressed sincere gratitude for the message, emphasizing its importance and declaring that he fully shares the ideas and fundamental propositions contained in it. He highly appraised the Soviet leadership's efforts aimed at preventing the nuclear threat and ensuring lasting peace throughout the world, and wished Soviet people successes in fulfilling the tasks of restructuring which is of major international importance.

C. Menem noted that Argentina is guided by the ideas of good-neighborliness, of ensuring mankind's survival, and of strengthening cooperation with all states of the planet regardless of their political or ideological affiliation, and stressed that the Argentine people are opposed to the arms race and the danger of destructive war. He positively appraised the level and content of constructive dialogue between the USSR and Argentina as conforming with the interests of the strengthening of peace, and spoke in favor of further development of mutually advantageous bilateral relations.

The Soviet side highly appraised Argentina's role in the implementation of important initiatives whose aim is to help achieve mutual understanding between peoples and disarmament. It was emphasized during the meeting that the Argentines can continue to regard the Soviet Union as a reliable partner in the economic, trade, and humanitarian spheres, which is in line with the interests of both states' peoples.

Delegation Visits Parliament

PM1207134589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "Head of State Takes the Oath"]

[Text] A USSR delegation headed by G.S. Tarazevich [deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Belorussian Supreme Soviet Presidium] has visited the Argentine National Congress. The Soviet guests were warmly greeted by Eduardo Menem, acting president of the Senate. During the conversation, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, the two countries' representatives confirmed their common positions on the basic problems of international relations, above all the struggle for peace, disarmament, and the establishment of a new economic order. The sides stressed that the halting of the arms race would contribute to the more rational use of resources in the interests of the socioeconomic progress of all states, including the peoples of developing countries.

The Argentine parliamentarian rated highly the Soviet Union's efforts to avert the nuclear threat and ensure lasting world peace. The guests from the USSR noted Argentina's role in the activity of the Group of Six, whose peace-loving initiatives are aiding the achievement of mutual understanding between different states, and its contribution to the normalization of the situation in Central America. The Soviet side displayed a readiness to help eliminate regional conflicts.

In conclusion, the representatives of the USSR and Argentina advocated the further development and strengthening of mutually advantageous relations between the two countries in the political, economic, and cultural spheres and also the expansion of interparliamentary ties and continuation of the dialogue.

Meets Foreign Minister; Departs

LD1107110789 Moscow TASS in English 0702 GMT 11 Jul 89

[Text] Buenos Aires July 11 TASS—A Soviet [words indistinct] led by Georgiy Tarazevich, deputy president of the USSR Supreme Soviet and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Belorussia, which took part in activities on the occasion of the transfer of presidential power has met with Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo. They unanimously stated the similarity or identity of political and philosophical concepts on the main problems that worry humanity today, specifically, the survival problem and the attaining of durable peace. Participants in the meeting stressed the mutually advantageous and stable character of Soviet-Argentine relations. They expressed the intention not only to retain the present level of bilateral relations, but also to look for ways of their further development in the interests of people of both countries.

An answer of President Carlos Saul Menem to a message of Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev on the occasion of the recent coming to office of the Argentine president was handed in to the Soviet delegation.

The delegation left for home.

Nicaraguan Air Force Commander Ends Visit

PM1007155589 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Jul 89 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] The official visit to the Soviet Union of Colonel Javier Pichardo, commander of the Air Force and Air Defense of the Republic of Nicaragua, has ended.

Colonel J. Pichardo and his party visited the Yu.A. Gagarin Air Force Academy and held talks in the USSR Armed Forces General Staff directorates, the Air Force Main Staff, and the Ground Forces Air Defense command.

The Nicaraguan guests were briefed on the progress of the implementation of new political thinking in Soviet defense building.

New Chairman Chosen for Latin American Committee

PM0207175189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jun 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Plenum Held"]

[Text] A plenum of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Latin American Peoples was held 22 June to discuss this public organization's tasks in connection with the Congress of USSR People's Deputies and M.S. Gorbachev's visit to the Republic of Cuba.

The committee's presidium, which met the previous day, discussed an organizational question. A.B. Chakovskiy was released from his duties as its chairman at his own request. The presidium thanked him for his active work in organizing and developing the movement for solidarity and cooperation with Latin American countries.

The presidium elected K.A. Khachaturov, who was working as deputy chairman of the APN [Expansion unknown] Board, as chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Latin American Peoples.

Political & Social

More on Recent Violence in Nagorno-Karabakh

Two Dead

PM1207130789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jul 89 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Events in Nagorno-Karabakh"]

[Text] Stepanakert, 11 Jul—A new round of confrontation is being cranked up in Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast. Interethnic hostility is growing and there have been more frequent clashes between large population groups using firearms and other weapons, home-made explosive devices, and petrol bombs.

Owing to the conflict between Azerbaijani and Armenian shepherds, there have been rumors among both population groups in Nagorno-Karabakh and adjacent regions that have aroused an unhealthy reaction and a desire to avenge insults. Attempts were repeatedly made throughout yesterday to block traffic along the oblast's roads. Thus in Stepanakert city Armenians placed reinforced concrete slabs and utility poles in the road, while in the village of Khodzhaly Azerbaijanis blocked the road using motor vehicles.

The soldiers who went to clear the roads around Stepanakert were bombarded with rocks by a crowd and shot at with shotguns. A home-made explosive device was set off. As a result 19 servicemen were injured.

Near the rayon center of Askeran a group of Azerbaijanis stopped a truck of militia staffers with a view to seizing weapons. An inspector was injured in the ensuing clash. The arrival of a detachment of servicemen prevented the conflict developing further.

At noon today on the outskirts of Stepanakert, near the settlement of Kirkidzhan, three Azerbaijanis were ambushed by people with firearms, as a result of which two were killed and one seriously injured. A USSR Prosecutor's Office Investigations Group has gone to the scene.

In the city of Mardakert a rampaging mob of young Armenians threw rocks at a convoy of trucks and buses, which resulted in people being injured.

The development of events and the escalation of tension attest to the intention of the most maliciously inclined representatives of the conflicting sides to further exacerbate the situation with no thought as to the consequences. At the same time, the sober-minded majority of the population advocates a peaceful, constitutional resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem.

Units of the internal troops and militia reserves in the oblast have been put on heightened alert. Roads are being patrolled by details of military vehicles. Helicopters are coordinating the law enforcement operations. The Special Administration Committee and law enforcement organs are doing everything possible to avert new clashes on interethnic grounds and to prevent people from being killed.

Ethnic Groups Try To Defuse Tension

NC1207143789 Paris AFP in English 1420 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, July 12 (AFP)—Various Azeri and Armenian groups are trying to defuse tension in the Nagorno-Karabakh region after two Azeris were shot dead Tuesday [11 July] in a new flare-up of ethnic violence.

The continuing trouble centers around demands by the Christian Armenian Majority in the Nagorno-Karabakh, an enclave within the largely Muslim Azerbaijan republic, to be reintegrated into the neighboring republic of Armenia.

The Karabakh Committee of Armenia, part of the National Armenian Movement that was legalized last month, issued only a statement—purposely avoiding any public meeting—to respond to public demands for an explanation of the latest incidents, said committee member Vazgen Manoukian, an activist who was releaased from jail only last month.

The agenda was also changed at a televised meeting Wednesday of deputies from Yerevan, the capital of the Armenian republic, to discuss the issue and denounce "obscure forces"—with no reference to Azeris—stirring the trouble, Mr. Manoukian said.

He also blamed the Moscow press for adding to the tension by "exaggerating" in its reports on the trouble.

On the Azeri side, Leila Yunusova, a leader of the Azerbaijan Popular Front, said her group was trying to fight anti-Armenian sentiments in the republic but that "repression" there made their efforts "difficult."

The Front, which wants Nagorno-Karabakh to remain part of Azerbaijan, said it has mobilized tens of thousands of supporters and denounced corruption and the conservative stand of local leaders.

But meetings it has held regularly in the republic's capital Baku since May are now banned and authorities have detained dozens who have tried to resume the rallies, Mrs. Yunusova said.

Nagorno-Karabakh has been under direct rule from Moscow since January 12.

In the flare-up Tuesday, 20 others, mostly soldiers, were also hurt after the soldiers were ambushed when they moved in to clear up barricades set up by both sides.

Security forces and soldiers were still on guard in the streets, but a resident contacted by telephone said small groups had defied the curfew to discuss events in the street.

In related developments, the Azerbaijan Popular Front said it had also sent members into Azeri pockets in the nearby Georgian Republic, where tension flared with native Georgians last month over the Azeris' demand for an autonomous status there.

Mrs. Yunusova said the delegates had convinced the Azeris to drop their demand and were well received by Georgian groups.

ARMENPRES Cited on Situation

NC1307083689 Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] An ARMENPRES correspondent reports from the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] that on 9 July (?isolated) conflicts took place on interethnic grounds. A particularly critical situation has been created on the roads, where the blocking of vehicles by both sides has become a frequent occurrence.

On the night of 6 July and early 7 July, the provocation that took place in Stepanakert's Kirkijan area had [word indistinct] (?impacts), said [name indistinct] Grigoryan, USSR people's deputy and first secretary of the Martuninskiy rayon. We are once again witnessing a [word indistinct] either because illegal acts are not decisively stopped and their perpetrators are not (?brought to trial) on time, or because these measures are not widely reported. Thus the situation develops (?unfavorably) for us. I think that those who support the exacerbation of tension in the region intend to upset the (?arrival) of the interethnic commission and its orderly functioning. It has become obvious to me, said Grigoryan, that in these uneasy days trips to the NKAO by (?troops from Baku) have become frequent. This is a source of serious concern for the Armenian residents of the oblast.

As a people's deputy, I deem it my duty to explain to [words indistinct] so that they will not be carried away by their feelings and respond to a possible provocation, which could result in delaying the implementation of the decision concerning the NKAO. A final and just resolution of the Artsakh issue is only possible through democratic and constitutional means.

TV Interviews Gorbachev in Leningrad

LD1207220989 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 12 Jul 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; interview with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, Yuriy Solovyev, former first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast Party Commitee, and Boris Gidaspov, his successor, with unidentified correspondent after the Leningrad party plenum on 12 July; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mikhail Sergeyevich, this is the third time in 4 years that you have visited Leningrad, and each time you call your visit consulting the Leningraders, and this always precedes the next stage of restructuring. Is this the nature of your visit this time and are you satisfied with its results?

[Gorbachev] Generally, you are right to point to the fact that each time I come here to Leningrad, the city of our revolution, the ideals of which today illumine our restructuring, our plans for the transformation, the revolutionary transformation of our society in order to open up the potential of this system, which was born of the October revolution, each time, any visit, I can already say this today, has always been connected with solving a very important and specific task. Nonetheless, this time, too, this visit is very important to me.

Even these short meetings and conversations with the workers, with the party aktiv, today's discussion at the plenum of the oblast party committee have greatly enriched me. At the same time, people's concerns have been conveyed to me, the real concerns of the working class, of our people, connected with the fact that not everything is going as it should, their concern that restructuring should really happen. You know, I really liked the sense of responsibility, of commitment, the disquiet for what we are doing, so that everything works out. While voicing many criticisms, people contributed a great many very useful opinions about what sort of ajustments we should make to the reform. This is linked, first and foremost, with the fact that we must create the opportunity to reveal the full potential of the documents connected with reform. Still, as the comrades point out, there are still many chains which do not allow the initiative of labor collectives to be properly developed. It is surprising that this was said by the workers of the Izhorskiy Zavod who are part of, well let's say a concern...

[Gidaspov] You can say that.

[Gorbachev] Yes, our socialist concern, which possesses considerably broader opportunities and rights, and they are already skillfully using them and adapting fairly flexibly to a difficult situation in our economy and seeking ways to solve it. Addressing the participants in the plenum, I said that this is very valuable experience for us. However, even the Izhorskiy Zavod workers, and comrade Fomin who is the head here, Boris Ivanovich, he also stresses that not all the chains have yet been removed. This gives us an incentive for reflection. I shall go back and convey these anxieties, but the main thing is that we must investigate all this, because if powerful collectives like this are complaining that they are short of things or they are being kept back, then that means not everything is going as it should. If you say there is one incentive, here is another: You know, our people are so right in that, in assessing restructuring and its results, they very rightly are asking questions. These are problems will require common efforts, large resources, and time.

I must say that you cannot deny the realism of our people. They understand this. If you are speaking about what arouses people's discontent, or even their irritation, it is that the simple issues that were never resolved by any center or even by the oblast, but should be resolved by production collectives in the rayons, by the rayon authorities, or the town authorities, are not being resolved. I gave one example at the Izhorskiy Zavod enterprise, where alongside such remarkable achievements and such advanced potential, which was created at this association, is such primitiveness and such old-fashioned machinery and technology.

[Correspondent, interrupting] In the 19th shop...

[Gorbachev continuing] In the 19th shop. To me this is a disgrace. Should some minister really come to Izhorskiy Zavod to resolve this? Or should someone really resolve the problem for the Izhorskiy workers by using their own resource method so that housing and social construction is expanded? Such power—more than 30,000 workers—such industrial potential, economic potential, personnel potential—people are right to criticize. This comes down to the cadres. This is why our cadres must appreciate this, that people consider everyone was given a chance, a limit, for restructuring, and people will now make greater demands for life to improve. Another thing—this excites me as the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee a lot—life is seething in Leningrad. Everyone is actively discussing the issues of restructuring relating both to the political sphere and economic, social, and interethnic relations, generally to everything, in the cultural sphere. At the same time, the participants in the plenum—I was pleased that some workers spoke—said that in some party committees and even in the rayon committees of the party all is quiet. How can this be? All around life is seething but in some party committees everything is quiet. Something not quite right is happening. This means that, in actual fact, and I spoke about this, we should be worried that in a number of cases the party as a whole and its various sections have lagged behind the fast flowing processes, the dynamic processes, have lagged behind that politicization which is occurring in our society and the activeness of the public, of our people.

So you can see how much thought I shall convey to the Central Committee. I spoke today and set out a number of propositions to get some kind of reaction and so that people would realize that I understand that. However, this is food for thought in the party Central Committee. So, we seem to have come here to tackle a specific matter.

Yuriy Filippovich Solovyev applied to the Central Committee, and, of course, to the oblast party committee, asking to be released from his duties as first secretary so that...[changes thought] he thought about it for a long time and consulted me. Ultimately, I understood his train of thought and accepted it, together with the other members of the Politburo. In the present case, in his arguments, it was a question of party organization, of the party and of restructuring, and it was necessary to remove, to leave on one side, his personal concerns and other interests, and to make way for the situation to be changed and for new processes, as it were, to be introduced and stimuli to be provided for them. So, in connection with this, this important plenum was held today.

Moreover, I must say that the plenum was preceded, despite the shortness, as it were, of time available, by a big discussion, first of all yesterday in the bureau itself all day. When I met them in the morning, I asked them to talk things over, and we left them on their own. I went off to the Izhora works. In the evening, they reached agreement after a whole day of discussion and came to a joint view. (?It was then that we offered) Comrade Gidaspov, Boris (Veniaminovich), the post of first secretary. Then we consulted the secretaries of the rayon party committees yesterday evening. There was a very long conversation—[Gorbachev turns to Solovyev] 3 hours?

[Solovyev] Yes, 3 hours.

[Gorbachev] There was a 3-hour conversation.

[Gidaspov] Until midnight.

[Gorbachev] Yes, we finished at around twelve o'clock. I asked the comrades to discuss that problem, if possible, with their aktiv in the rayons, and it must be said that in 26 rayons and town party committees plenums were held right away, as well as aktiv meetings and broad conferences, attended by members of elected bodies, the secretaries of party organizations and economic leaders. As a result, everyone came to a unanimous opinion. They decided on Comrade Gidaspov, evaluating his business, political, and human qualities, his erudition, his openness, in general his entire...[pauses] [laughter] [words indistinct]

[Correspondent] [Words indistinct]

[Gorbachev] I must say that it was very actively discussed at the plenum, too, and I am simply pleased, satisfied. You know, we agreed in the Politburo that I should come here to Leningrad and, together with the Leningraders, think everything over here. I think that this was correct and respectful, and just as it should be—even more so in relation to the Leningrad party organization, whose role in the party is enormous, irreplaceable. I think that the Leningraders in the final analysis will approve this choice of the Communists. I only wish you success.

[Gidaspov] Thank you.

[Correspondent] Mikhail Sergeyevich, a question continuing and developing the theme that you have just dealt with: In a break in the plenum, I heard opinions from some participants that the election that took place to some extent could nevertheless be called an appointment, since again there was no alternative principle that has often been discussed recently.

[Gorbachev] That is not right.

[Correspondent] I wanted to ask in this connection, how far this viewpoint is correct, and second, how do you rate, in connection with this, the process of dynamism involved in the democratization in the party?

[Gorbachev] Yes, incidentally I made a speech just now, and it will be published, but I (?am happy to repeat) things while the papers are being printed. Yes, well, the first part of the question: You know that there were also talks yesterday, and various other persons were named. Today, when the Communists in 26 rayons and towns, in town and rayon committees of the party discussed things, they also expressed various considerations. At the plenum itself, three candidacies were put forward. The main one, the one which was, so to speak, unanimously accepted in the oblast party organization was comrade Gidaspov. Then the candidacy of comrade Gerasimov was put forward. The third candidate was the first secretary of Leninskiy Rayon committee, comrade Yefimov. The nominations were restricted to that, and the discussion of the candidacies began. It was fairly...there were probably 15 speakers.

[Gidaspov] Yes, not less than that.

[Gorbachev] I was very pleased by such a party-minded, open, critical discussion. All the comrades.. There was an opinion that perhaps the discussion should be continued and spread even further, so to speak.

[Solovyev] (?Beyond our limits.)

[Gorbachev] Beyond our limits.

[Solovyev] Yes.

[Gorbachev] Yes, but this was discussed fairly actively, and even those who introduced it, later withdrew it, and accepted the arguments that it wasn't, so to speak, worth it. Why? The time is such now that the party organization must act. Not a single day must be wasted, and we cannot place any doubt...either the conference which has taken place...the comrades said, and I share this, too, that the conference has just elected—6 months, was it, or how long? [sentence as heard]

[Gidaspov] Yes, 23 December.

[Gorbachev] So, what? Six months? Seven months since they elected this oblast party committee? So, are we to voice lack of confidence in the Communists who first elected the delegates? The delegates elected this oblast party committee, and we in just 6 months, so to speak...[changes thought] The question has been put in a less than serious way, so to speak. So, everyone agreed, after these arguments, but the main thing is that this was a fairly broad and open discussion. Where comrade Gidaspov was, they held a plenum, then a session of the party committee.

[Gidaspov] An extended session of the party committee was held.

[Gorbachev] An extended session. Discussions were held. I was pleased that the people of Leningrad...it's a good thing that the people of Leningrad...and not just the Communists, but the working people, too, are concerned as to who will head the party organization. This means that there is concern here that the party organization should gain strength and develop its potential and get rid of weaknesses.

Well, as far as the second question is concerned, I shall tell you frankly, that at first the party gained immense support by virtue of the fact that it came out as the initiator of restructuring, proposed the policy of restructuring, and developed the program everywhere, and it received very powerful support. At the same time it occupied courageous positions of criticism and self-criticism. It is right. This is the way a truly responsible ruling party should operate. But at the second stage I must say that much of what is not being tackled in good time right now is connected with the fact that the party, too, does not always act in good time. This is happening because it is lagging behind the processes; the party itself is lagging behind restructuring, renewal, and the reform of its own party.

I believe this is the most important thing today. It seems to me that we ought not to wait for the congress, but we can and must take what has already been done to date and proceed further on the principles formulated by the 19th party conference, developing the processes of the democratization of the whole party's internal life. What we particularly need—I have just mentioned it—is for this to occur above all in the primary party organizations. How can you have a situation in which life is humming all around and vital problems are discussed in the squares, but in certain, in many party organizations the old gum is still being chewed concerning some kind of current moment, the results of the first quarter, the tasks of the second quarter, and things like that? I may be putting this too crudely and sharply...

[Unidentified speaker interrupting] That is precisely the case—the agenda....

[Gorbachev, interrupting] At the same time, matters of life and restructuring, what concerns people, are discussed in the squares. The matters being discussed in the squares should become the agenda for discussions at party meetings. Then people will go and attend the party meetings. Even if they don't go initially, let the Communists themselves discuss these matters, even if they are sometimes acute matters on which agreement cannot be reached. Let them examine them, assess them collectively, and reach an opinion. This will equip all Communists with an understanding, a concerted line, an assessment. So you have asked an interesting question. I have discussed this topic at length. It is very important. The same also applies to every elective body. Certain comrades said today—although this was not the main topic—that they are not satisfied, as members of the oblast party committee, with the way the oblast party committee exists and functions, and how life inside it is proceeding. They said they are little involved in all the processes of political life, they are not participating in all this very actively.

[Solovyev] Among the oblast committee membership.

[Gorbachev] Among the oblast committee membership.

[Unidentified speaker] The reserves...

[Gorbachev] It is very...yes, the reserves are enormous, enormous. So what I would say is this. There are vast forces here, the potential, both concerning theory and cadres, is enormous.

[?Gidaspov] Leningrad has everything. Leningrad has everything.

[Gorbachev] Leningrad, its party organization, must get its second wind.

[Correspondent] Mikhail Sergeyevich, we also want...

[Gorbachev] You said 3 minutes! [laughter]

[Correspondent] The 3 minutes (?are over), but we want to ask a question of your interlocutors. Yuriy Filippovich, a question for you: The Leningrad party organization is not just a part of your life, it is the whole of it. Your noble life has passed in Leningrad. As you hand over your post following the decision of the Leningrad Oblast party committee plenum, which of the main unresolved problems are you entrusting to your successor to tackle first of all, if you can put it into words?

[Solovyev] It can be put into words and, in general, it can be said that perhaps the most difficult task that will be facing Boris Veniaminovich and facing not just him but the whole party organization—it is not just a matter of one person or the first secretary alone as Mikhail Sergeyevich said—ahead lies vast work to raise within the party, and on a democratic basis to increase its prestige. That is the main task.

And if one is to speak about prestige in general, without saying that it is necessary only to go out and seek advice and soon, it is necessary for all the party organizations in every collective to raise and lift their responsibility for what they are doing there. What Mikhail Sergeyevich has just said about some of our party organizations still remaining serene, the elimination of this state, is also one of the most important tasks.

[Correspondent] Boris Veniaminovich, I have a question for you, if you will permit me. We have already received a reply to one question, or to part of it, but still it would be interesting to know on what most important, and urgent problems of our life, of our Leningrad party organization...

[Gorbachev, interrupting] They tried to get this out of Boris Veniaminovich at the oblast party committee plenum. He avoided replying to that question and, in my opinion, he acted very responsibly in doing so.

[Gidaspov] I am not going to say very much now either. The point is that to me this event was rather unexpected—being elected first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast party committee. I was not consulted. This was a choice made in Leningrad, by the way. No one in Moscow spoke to me, neither Mikhail Sergeyevich nor the Central Committee apparatus. It was done by the members of the Bureau of the Leningrad Oblast party committee and the Leningrad Oblast party committee.

At first I did not accept this proposal. Then, when I was presented with arguments showing that on my part this would be regarded simply as disrespect for the Bureau, I understood that there was work to be done.

I would like to cover one other issue here and dwell on one issue—the issue of presenting alternatives in elections and in general [words indistinct]. At the start, I, too, at the Bureau, said that two or three candidacies were needed. I named that same Yefimov. I named several comrades from Moscow who originally came from Leningrad. But later, when I heard the arguments I was gradually persuaded to agree to this work.

Further, on the subject of holding a conference or holding a plenum of the oblast party committee, it would seem to be logical to hold a conference and a broader discussion of the candidacies. But I think that even 2 or 3 months would not give the primary organizations a conception of me. I would have to travel around a lot, to speak a lot, issue a program, and discuss that program. It would take up a lot of time. And the next conference is only 18 months away.

[Gorbachev] Perhaps less.

[Gidaspov] Perhaps even less. So these 18 months should be a test for me, a test for the Bureau membershp and a test for the oblast party committee.

Now, about the problems. Well, the first problem has already been indicated by me, Mikhail Sergeyevich, and Yuriy Filippovich, and I would like only to concentrate on how I understand it. Undoubtedly, the prestige of the party must be enhanced. I think that the main slogan should be: Prestige via activity. The activity of the party members must be increased. Not the activity of the party apparatus or the secretaries, but the activity of the party members, and 600,000 Communists. If among these 600,000 Communists 60,000 are active, then everything will be in order here.

The second problem. I do not know whether you are familiar with this or not. I often use this expression. This expression exists among us Leningraders. Mikhail Sergeyevich perhaps knows this, that Leningrad is not the capital of the Soviet Union but it is not the country's second city, either.

[Gorbachev] Yes, I know, I know. That is your patriotism.

[Gidaspov] Yes. And so to set off or, more accurately, to start from this position, to remember that we are not the country's second city, that our party organization has always been in the vanguard in all the party's new undertakings, I think that this is the most important. And again what is needed here is activity. Activity is needed. Colossal work is required. Of course, cadre changes are needed, I can say that right away. We need to elaborate concepts. We need discussion. And we need the consolidation of all the progressive forces in Leningrad. All, without exception. We shall not reject anyone.

We will agree to a constructive dialogue with all; a constructive dialogue. We will criticize each other, if that is required. We will (?realize) our points of view and will reveal what unites us. But we must channel the efforts of all Leningraders—both party members and non-party people, and the People's Front and the Green Movement, both of the latter. All must be channeled in one direction, because we have one aim generally—to build a society where people can live happily, so that our city prospers, so that the city center, the pearl of our country and, one might say, of the world, is revived. But neither the CPSU nor anyone else will suffice for that: Joint efforts by all Leningraders are needed. This is roughly the message which I have come with.

[Correspondent] Let me congratulate you on your election and wish you success in your work.

Gorbachev Meets With Leningrad Plant Workers

PM1207153789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
12 Jul 89 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Consulting the Working Class. M.S. Gorbachev's Stay in Leningrad"]

[Text] Leningrad, 11 Jul—M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, arrived in the city on the Neva today.

This is his third visit in the last 4 years, and each of them has marked a crucial stage, as it were, in the processes of transformations which are under way in the country. Here in the Smolnyy auditorium in 1985 the key propositions of our restructuring, which are currently being translated into practice and increasingly enriched with real, new substance, were outlined. The general secretary invited Leningraders to march in the vanguard of restructuring.

The program of the current visit opened at Kolpino, a suburb of Leningrad. The main production facilities of the "Izhorskiy Zavod" association, one of the leading centers of Soviet heavy machine building, are located here. The enterprise now specializes in the production of equipment for nuclear power stations. The Izhorskiy Zavod metallurgists have mastered the production of unique "heavyweight" ingots, and Europe's biggest "500" rolling mill and a forging complex of 12,000 tonnes pressure have been installed and and operating here, as are other new developments of Soviet science and technology.

The creation of the latest technology called not only for a major reconstruction of the enterprise but also a radical reform of management and the solution of social problems in the life of the collective, which numbers many thousands of people. The first stage of the switch to full self-management has been successfully mastered at the enterprise: The "Izhorskiy Zavod" association no longer comes under the jurisdiction of the ministry, it is now part of the intersector "Energomash" state association—an original type of Soviet concern. Despite a more difficult situation as regards orders, the enterprise is steadily fulfilling its profit plan, its financial position is solid, and it has actively joined in the process of conversion. Annually, up to 25 percent of its output is to be updated.

The association, which largely determines the face of industrial Leningrad, needs well-balanced, realistic programs to comprehensively solve vital tasks not just in the economy, but also in terms of ecology and in providing the working people with housing, food, goods, and services.

These were the key topics of the relaxed conversation which took place between M.S. Gorbachev and the association's workforce.

M.S. Gorbachev asked those present about the housing situation, about the waiting list for new apartments, and about how many apartments are commissioned annually. The situation is complex, the machine builders replied: Some 200 to 250 apartments are commissioned annually, but in order to fulfill the task by the year 2000 the number would have to be multiplied several-fold.

What about the direct labor method? Why do you not develop this form of housing construction? M.S. Gorbachev asked, and told them how this problem is being tackled by a machine-building enterprise in Donetsk. Significant progress has been achieved precisely thanks to the direct labor method, and the waiting list has been drastically cut.

After all, it is the enterprises which now control the resources. That is what economic accountability means, but you must make sure that you are able to make use of it for your benefit—building housing and kindergartens, tackling the food problem by building your own hothouse complexes. At present, it seems, enterprises are very mean with channeling their income into improving working conditions, implementing reconstruction, introducing new technologies, and independently resolving social questions. For instance, we noticed the poor working conditions in the consumer goods shop. Unfortunately, economic managers are more inclined to pursue higher wages. In Leningrad, for instance, labor productivity has increased by 6 percent, while wages have risen 50- to 100-percent faster. Is this what economic independence should be like? Higher payments which are not backed up by goods or end products cannot be tolerated.

Generally speaking, is the "Housing-2000" program realistic?—someone asked.

If we continue building as we have done during this 5-year plan, then hardly, M.S. Gorbachev replied. Although we have substantially stepped up the pace of housing construction over the past 3 years, it is not enough. Estimates indicate that in order to resolve the problem it is necessary to pool the efforts and resources of state capital investments, enterprises, cooperatives, and individual construction with a view to creating a powerful resource base. It is necessary to reduce the volume of prolonged construction projects with immediate effect and make materials available on the market for people who want to and are able to build houses with their own resources, either through credit or on a cooperative basis. However, the matter does not hinge on resources but rather on the construction base. And the next requirement is the availability of more furniture and sanitary ware. A number of special decisions have already been adopted in this context. Forecasts for the 13th 5-Year Plan indicate that a breakthrough is feasible. (Gorbachev ends)

Critical comments were made about the poor supply of food in the stores, the high prices of vegetables and fruit, and dissatisfaction among the people with the work of many cooperatives, which are inflating prices for basic goods and services without paying attention to their quality.

In principle I am in favor of cooperatives, Mikhail Sergeyevich replied, but they have to be cooperatives which produce additional goods and construction materials, provide service facilities, and operate in conditions close to those of state enterprises. I am aware that cooperatives in the public catering sphere have attracted the greatest amount of criticism. With a view to establishing order in this sphere, local organs of power are now authorized to adopt decisions to regulate the forms and range of activities of cooperatives and questions relating to their supplies, taxation, and so forth. The proposals of city and oblast soviet executive committees on cooperative and individual labor activity have been published in Leningrad today for broad discussion. Similar work is under way in all republics, krays, and oblasts.

Then a conversation was held with "Izhorskiy Zavod" association managers and leading specialists.

All that you are currently doing in the sphere of creating new industrial management structures is needed not only in Leningrad but throughout the country—this is how Mikhail Sergeyevich characterized the initial experience gained by the "Energomash" and "Tekhnokhim" concerns. The difficulties in grafting new economic management structures onto existing economic conditions, and the advantages from which the workers of the concerns have either already profited or will be able to profit in the near future were discussed at the meeting.

M.S. Gorbachev inquired in detail about the new economic ties within the concerns and about their social programs. Then he toured the shops of the enterprise, had detailed conversations with workers and specialists, and listened to advice and proposals on how Soviet people's lives could be improved.

We are currently going through a very difficult stage of transformations, the general secretary stressed. It is very important not to lose our head in this situation, especially since life is presenting us with ever new problems in the shape of all kinds of shortages, disruptions in supply, and other social difficulties. The economy is sustained above all by the initiative and energy of labor collectives, but there is also an acute need for cardinal decisions which would make it possible in the near future to eliminate many of the pressing problems.

M.S. Gorbachev backed proposals which would make it possible in the upcoming local soviet elections to democratically take fuller account of the interests of labor collectives and expand their representation in the organs of power. We do not want a situation whereby some people rule and others work, Mikhail Sergeyevich noted. What we need are mechanisms which provide the working people with a real opportunity to manage production and the country at all levels. The actions of worker deputies at the recent Congress, their work in the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the situation in the country as whole bear out that this is not only correct but also necessary.

M.S. Gorbachev answered many questions at the meeting from those present on a wide range of problems pertaining to restructuring, the political and economic reforms, the enhancement of the soviets' role, and the stepping up of party organizations' activeness.

In the afternoon a meeting between M.S. Gorbachev and members of the Leningrad CPSU Oblast Committee Bureau and secretaries of city and rayon party committees was held at the Smolnyy.

M.S. Gorbachev was accompanied on his trip by G.P. Razumovskiy and Yu.F. Solovyev, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

Gorbachev Returns to Moscow From Leningrad

LD1207183389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1816 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 12 Jul (TASS)—This evening, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, returned to Moscow from Leningrad.

Gidaspov Chosen New Leningrad Party Chief

LD1207174789 Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Leningrad July 12 TASS—The Leningrad Region Party Committee, meeting in plenary session here today to deal with a personnel issue, replaced Yuriy Solovyev with Boris Gidaspov as its first secretary.

Solovyev was relieved of his duties as first secretary and a member of the committee's bureau in connection with his own request and retirement on a pension.

Gidaspov was previously a member of the committee's Bureau and chairman of the board of the intersectoral state amalgamation Tekhnokhim.

The plenum was addressed by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Communist Party Central Committee and Supreme Soviet president.

Alternate Politburo member and Central Committee Secretary Georgiy Razumovskiy attended the plenum.

TASS Biography of Gidaspov

LD1207192189 Moscow TASS in English 1807 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Leningrad July 12 TASS—A 56-year-old chemical scientist and production organiser was voted today to head the Leningrad region party committee.

Boris Gidaspov, who is a corresponding member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, replaces Yuriy Solovyev, 63, who retired on a pension after four years in the post.

Gidaspov's election took place at the committee's plenum.

He was born in a small town in the Volga region, graduated from the Kuibyshev Industrial Technology Institute and enrolled in the post-graduate department of the Leningrad Technological Institute where he then worked his way up from a laboratory assistant to a faculty head.

At 31, Gidaspov became one of the youngest Soviet scientists to be awarded a doctorate in chemistry, as the leading theorist in the industrial chemistry of high-energy compounds. Some 70 scientists underwent training under his supervision to win the Soviet equivalent of MS. and Ph.D. degrees.

Gidaspov is the author of more than 500 scientific papers and holder of Lenin and State prizes.

His high scientific competence showed graphically during efforts to deal with the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear accident in the spring and summer of 1986, when he was one of the experts on the government commission overseeing this work.

Gidaspov is known in the Soviet scientific community as an active champion of perestroyka, of new forms of organising research and production, and of gearing science to practical needs.

Two years ago he put forward the idea of creating Soviet concerns—major intersectoral production amalgamations operating on the basis of complete economic independence outside the control of ministries.

When the first such concern, Tekhnokhim, was set up, he became its head and remained one until today.

Gidaspov, a party member for nearly 30 years, became especially widely known and popular among Leningraders as a politician during the last general elections when he was nominated for the Congress of People's Deputies by several of the city's research centres and emerged victorious in a field of some 20 also-rans.

The triumph was due to Gidaspov's coherent and realistic platform emphasising the need to "shape new public thinking through promoting creativity and initiative in every sphere of life and fight the administer-by-command system of power."

In practical terms, the platform attached priority to such urgent social needs as providing every Leningrad family with a separate flat by the year 2000, overcoming shortages of food and cheap consumer goods, and increasing pensions and government subsidies to low-income pensioners and families with many children.

Gidaspov's election promises also included his close involvement in the campaign for ecological security in the Leningrad region.

During the first Congress of People's Deputies Gidaspov headed the Credentials Commission.

His experience in party work includes membership of elected party bodies at local and borough levels and, for the past two years, of the regional party committee's bureau.

New Strike by Coal Miners in Siberia

AU1207143889 Paris AFP in English 1358 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, July 12 (AFP)—Soviet coal industry minister, Mikhail Shchadov, met striking miners at the Mezhdurechensk colliery in the Siberian region of Kemerovo, Tuesday in an effort to end a two-day-old strike, the Soviet trade union paper TRUD reported Wednesday.

A thousand miners demonstrated outside the local Communist Party headquarters, calling for the application of a 30 point plan which includes self-management of the colliery, increased holiday benefits and improved food distribution services, the paper said.

Strike leaders had given party officials ten days warning that the strike would go ahead unless their demands were met.

The warning had been ignored, the paper said.

The Moscow press has already reported that government officials have had to head-off several strikes in Siberian mines by negotiating in person with strike leaders.

Shchadov Fails To End Strike

PM1207175589 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 13 Jul 89 First Edition p 2

[Report by own correspondent V. Kostyukovskiy: "Old and New Bills To Pay; Work Stopped at Number of Mines in Mezhdurechensk"]

[Text] Kemerovo Oblast—On Tuesday mines and pits stopped work and on Wednesday they were joined by virtually the entire city. [An A. Bogachuk report on the same event carried in Moscow PRAVDA 13 July First Edition on page 6 notes that on Tuesday "the number of strikers rose to almost 12,000" and that "thousands of people" joined an "all-day, citywide" rally held to formulate the strikers' demands. "The strikers included hundreds of Communists."] But in order to follow the development of events, we must go back 10 days to when miners at the Shevyakov Mine conveyed their demands to the leaders of the city and the "Yuzhkuzbassugol" Association. Unfortunately, it cannot be said that anyone paid them serious attention. Obviously not everything depends on the local authorities but it is now clear how important it was to convey all these questions to "those above" without delay and in the most serious manner.

Now, however, with the strike supported by every miner in the city, their elected strike committee has not merely repeated these demands, but put forward a whole series of new ones. A. Melnikov, first secretary of the Kemerovo Oblast Party Committee [obkom]; F. Tabeyev, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; A. Lyutenko, chairman of the oblast soviet executive committee [oblispolkom]; and M. Shchadov, USSR minister of the coal industry, have all come to the city.

It would be difficult to list all the demands made by the strikers, as they contain no less than 42 points, concerning the regulation of labor remuneration and organization and improvement in the sector's management structure. A large group of the demands is concerned with the most neglected sphere in the Kuzbass—the sociocultural, housing, and consumer sphere. Several points are concerned with a no less serious problem: ecology.

Even a cursory glance at this list allows us to draw several important conclusions. The first: Virtually all the demands fall within the context of restructuring. The second: Some of them could and should have been resolved by oblast bodies and organizations much earlier, but indifference and a "gradualist" attitude have really exacerbated the situation. The third: A considerable proportion of these important problems have been on the agenda for years, have been raised repeatedly by the Kuznetsk miners at various levels, including in the central press, and could have been resolved long ago by the authority of the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry. Here is just one example: Surely it is within the power of the ministry to grant mines and pits the status of a state enterprise? But, it must be said that in some issues the striking miners are showing impatience—they could hardly be resolved at the present stage in restructuring.

The miners of Mezhdurechensk extract 1 in every 5 tonnes of Kuzbass coal and 1 in every 24 tonnes of coal mined throughout the country as a whole. So who is really the master of the city and of the whole mining region, for that matter? The atmosphere in the square and the very nature of the rally, which lasted all day and all night, very clearly reflected the real situation: The department is the one in charge! Yes, there are both party and soviet authorities in the city, but the real "boss" is the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry. And that is why M. Shchadov found himself answerable to the miners all night, only breaking for talks with Moscow and conferences with his subordinates.

Credit where it's due, he agreed that the demands are just and that most of the problems need to be resolved immediately... But the really striking thing was the ease and rapidity with which some of the most complex problems were actually resolved, problems which had been waiting years. In any event, that verdict was possible from the minister's answers and promises. But as soon as he uttered the stock phrases of the "need to think, to investigate, and to work" and so on the people on the square responded: "Rubbish!"

It must be said bluntly: The leader of the coal sector cut a pale figure on the platform. Far paler than a few days earlier in front of the members of the USSR Supreme Soviet who appointed him to his post. Of course, by no means all the problems are directly due to him or his staff.

Furthermore, the leaders of the sector are almost all new. All of them now have to pay the old bills, so to speak. But there are also new bills to pay, for the most flagrant errors and omissions not only of the past but of the present as well. The main ones are the delay in restructuring the economy and the barely visible, scant direction of attention toward man, his needs and aspirations.

During one of the nighttime recesses, I managed a brief conversation with party obkom first secretary A. Melnikov.

"We are reaping the fruits of many years now when coal mining in the Kuzbass grew and grew but everyday problems were not resolved, but accumulated and mounted," Aleksandr Grigoryevich said. "The economic reform in the coal sector is going wrong, and not only in the coal sector. Look, approximately one-third of the demands relate to the sphere of operation of economically accountable collectives, which could work on the principles of self-financing and successfully resolve all these questions themselves. But because we have still not implemented the basic condition of the reform, haven't transferred rights to the producers of output, and haven't placed fixed capital at their disposal, the workers are appealing to those who control all this. The content of the miners' protest is natural and understandable but the form in which this protest has been manifested—a strike—cannot be accepted."

...Nighttime. The platform is illuminated by hundreds of miners' lamps. The trade union committees and the workers' supply department have organized catering for those who refused to leave the square. The city radio keeps the whole city constantly informed of all that is happening. Responsibility for order in Mezhdurechensk has been assumed by the committee. Its activists personally sealed the liquor stores. They are constantly urging the assembly to show calm (but emotions, of course, often go too far) and resolutely remove those people who turn up drunk from time to time. They work in close and friendly contact with the militia. In the past 24 hours there have been approximately one-third the usual number of incidents and so far not one was connected with the strike.

It wasn't until after 0400 that it was decided to take a break until 0900. What could have displeased the miners in the replies given by M. Shchadov, who promised additional pay (for example, an extra night shift payment) an improvement in the food supply, and other benefits? Surely this: The minister assiduously avoided the main issue—questions of the enterprises' independence.

Gorbachev Chairs 13 Jul Supreme Soviet Session

LD1307075789 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0620 GMT 13 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jul (TASS)—TASS parliamentary correspondent reports from the Kremlin.

The USSR Supreme Soviet, which is continuing discussion of the composition of the Council of Ministers, has begun examining candidates who will occupy important posts in the ideological sphere and who will head the education, radio and television, publishing, and cinematography sectors.

Today's morning session, which is being chaired by Mikhail Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, who returned yesterday from Leningrad, began with discussion of the candidacy of 62-year-old Gennadiy Yagodin, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, who is again being recommended for the post of chairman of the State Committee for Education. This committee was set up about a year ago on the basis of three ministries and combines the management of teaching in secondary schools, vocational and technical schools, and in higher education establishments.

Says Concern for Deputies Inadequate

LD1307105689 Moscow TASS in English 1040 GMT 13 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 13 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

As the candidate to head the state committee on television and radio broadcasting was discussed in the Supreme Soviet today, President Mikhail Gorbachev read a telegram he received from a Leningrad TV viewer perplexed by a statement by Yuriy Boldyrev, a deputy from Leningrad, on the city's television channel.

Questioned by other Supreme Soviet deputies, Boldyrev confirmed that he had really talked about "the taming and feeding up of members of parliament by the political leadership".

This drew a storm of protest.

Deputies, who stay in the Kremlin from 9 a.m. until 8 or 9 p.m. without even having a possibility to have a full meal (the snack bars offer only sandwiches and hot dogs), decried Boldyrev's charge as playing on philistine sentiments, and political point-scoring.

They also spoke of financial difficulties (the issue of remuneration for MP's [member of parliament] work is still not settled) and other problems.

All speakers agreed that the deputies do not even have normal working conditions, let alone any priviliges.

Summing up the discussion, Gorbachev said that the claim of attempts to "tame deputies" is a political matter. He noted that the press too has published stories seeking to play down the significance of the Congress of People's Deputies and Supreme Soviet work.

"I personally do not accept, do not share this view," he said.

Gorbachev agreed that concern for deputies is inadequate and called on the Supreme Soviet to get down to improving arrangements affecting their everyday life immediately.

Yagodin To Head Education Committee

LD1307102789 Moscow TASS in English 1014 GMT 13 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 13 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

The Soviet Parliament today resumed an unplanned discussion, which originated on Wednesday, of the state of affairs in secondary and higher school. It was prompted by the discussion of the candidacy of Gennadiy Yagodin who was nominated for the post of chairman of the state committee for public education.

The committee was set up about a year ago on the basis of three ministries and integrated guidance of education in secondary, vocational and technical schools and institutions of higher learning.

Yagodin who at the time headed the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education was placed at the head of the committee.

When setting out his vision of the problem in parliament, the candidate emphasised that the success of perestroyka directly depended on the standard of education, ethics, and professionalism of every person.

Analysing the cause of shortcomings in the sphere of education, Yagodin mentioned as follows: The low social status of education and professionalism in the country, the insufficiency of means of many schools and institutions of higher learning, the teachers' training standard which does not meet present-day requirements, and the alienation of the school from national culture.

The candidate is especially concerned by insufficient spending on education, the spending which, he said, account for approximately five percent of the national budget, which is 50 percent lower than in the developed countries of the West.

Many deputies spoke in the debate on the issue. Among them were, of course, a cross-section of teachers, from Shalva Amonashvili, an innovative teacher from Georgia who is well-known throughout the country, to Galina Stepanova, a modest school teacher from the Buryat Autonomous Republic.

They differently visualise ways of how to rectify the state of affairs in Soviet education but they all agree that radical changes are essential in the content and methods of education. Special attention, deputies believe, should be given to rural schools.

Deputies also debated the question of the extent to which study programs in various union republics may differ. Some favour complete autonomy and even the elimination of an all-union coordinating body, while others perceive in this the danger of a break up of the integrated system of education, pointing out for example that in such conditions a school graduate from one republic will not be prepared to enter a higher learning establishment in another republic.

A lot of problems have piled up in the field of education. This was patiently shown by remarks by Aleksandr Konovalov, member of the parliamentary committee for science and public education.

"By international standards, our society," he maintained, "cannot be referred to as an educated one. The UNESCO uses an index—youth intellectualisation quotient—which characterises the level of education. In the 1960s the Soviet Union was the world's second after the United States whereas now it is somewhere about the 50th place in this regard.

Taking into account the seriousness of the situation a number of deputies said that the state of affairs in the field of education should be considered at special parliamentary hearings or even brought up for discussion at a session of the Congress of People's Deputies.

Gennadiy Yagodin was appointed chairman of the committee for public education by a majority of votes.

Further on 12 Jul Supreme Soviet Sesssion

Scherbakov Approved as Committee Head

LD1207135889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1245 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 12 Jul (TASS)—TASS parliamentary correspondent reports from the Kremlin:

Continuing the debate on the composition of the USSR Council of Ministers, the USSR Supreme Soviet today appointed the youngest member of the government. He is 40-year-old economist Shcherbakov, who will head the State Committee for Labor and Social Affairs. (The average age of members of the new Soviet government is 55 years.)

Shcherbakov's life has not been easy. His father, an officer in the Soviet Army, fell under the "Khrushchev mower" (this is what veterans call the cuts in the army carried out at the start of the 1960's by former Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, and which were not duly underpinned by concern for finding jobs for or giving material support to the discharged officers.) Having finished boarding school, the lad went into the new car factory, the Volga one, which is now famous for its "Ladas" and "Samaras." He worked, lived in a hostel, and graduated from the polytechnical institute attached to the factory. Also, the energetic specialist acquired political experience in the city Komsomol committee, to which he was elected by his comrades.

In 1985, Vladimir Shcherbakov was invited to head a department in the State Committee for Labor and Social Issues. And then, after working for a short period in the apparatus of the Council of Ministers, he returned to the committee as its head.

Perhaps, it was fate itself which has determined priorities in the new leader's program. The head of the department sees his primary task in enhancing the social security of the least well-to- do strata of society. According to his estimations, for example, low-income families get places in health sanatoriums four times less frequently than middle-income families. The candidate is convinced that this is intolerable in a socialist society. He is worried about the situations of the elderly and families with many children.

During the discussion of his candidacy at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet today, Vladimir Shcherbako said that he intends to turn the State Committee for Labor and Social Issues into a "headquarters for social planning" and would conduct an active social policy.

Vladimir Shcherbakov called the trade and money disbalance a most acute social problem. In his words, the population has about R400 billion which it is prepared to spend. But today, there are as little as R90 billion worth of goods in storages.

The vital need to raise the quality of labor is yet another national social problem, the young leader thinks. Judging by his pronouncements, he supports the formula voiced by leading Soviet economist Leonid Abalkin: "We live no worse that we work." The committee's leader suggested that the parliamentarians should radically revise the legal code on labor, which, in his view, protects the lazy today.

Deputies supported the young specialist and made a request to the new member of the government: changes for the better in the social sphere must take place in the next 18 months to 2 years.

Izrael Candidacy Approved

LD1207104989

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0800 GMT on 12 July 1989 broadcasts a 6-minute report by Correspondent Vladimir Koroblev from today's USSR Supreme Soviet session chaired by A.I. Lukyanov. He says that Lukyanov has read a letter from the committee of soldiers' and sailors' mothers expressing gratitude for the Supreme Soviet's resolution on releasing students from military service, and that representatives of the committee sent flowers to those taking part in the session.

He moves on to report on today's continuing discussion of candidacies for government posts, recalling that Izrael's candidacy for the post of chairman of the State Committee for Hydrometeorology was begun yesterday but not completed. He says: "This morning the discussion of Yuriy Antonovich Izrael's candidacy continued for 2 hours. He gave quite detailed replies to questions from deputies, and there were quite a lot of them. They concerned government of the ecological situation in the country, the causes of the demise of the Aral Sea, and the need to take urgent measures to save it...and there was also considerable discussion on improving the condition of the Black Sea.

"Deputies had many questions connected with the accident at Chernobyl, and a very keen discussion got under way at the session on this question. Deputies, particulrly deputies from the Ukraine, said that the hydrometeorological services during the days of the accident provided information that was not quite objective on the state of affairs with the radioactive situation in the region of the accident. They spoke of the need for mass production of individual dosimeters, and other questions were also raised in connection with those tragic events." Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov gave explanations at the session on the question of the Chernobyl accident. He gave deputies a detailed account of the measures that were taken by the government to eliminate the accident and its consequences, and he noted that the events at Chernobyl cannot be blamed on the chairman of the committee which has been headed all these years by Comrade Izrael.

"As a result of the voting—I have already said that the discussion of Comrade Izrael's candidacy lasted 2 hours—of 422 deputies, 294 deputies voted for his being confirmed in the post of chairman of the State Committee for Hydrometeorology, and so, by a majority of votes, Yuriy Antonovich Izrael was appointed by deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the post of chairman of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology".

The correspondent concludes by noting that the session is currently taking a break.

Chernobyl Subject of Debate

LD1207144989 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Correspondent Vera Shchelkunova report from USSR Supreme Soviet session in the Moscow Kremlin]

[Excerpts] [Shchelkunova] Hello, esteemed listeners. As you probably know from our reports, the formation of the government is continuing today at the session. Yuriy Antoniyevich Izrael reads a question addressed to him and answers it.

[Izrael] in your speech you said that data on radioactive pollution were conveyed right from the first days of the Chernobyl accident. Please say precisely from which day and at what time the population was informed about level for the first time at 1000 on the 26th; a helicopter that was sent out recorded a heightened level in the gas stream, and that was at about 1100. Between 1100 and 1200 on the 26th, our chief of the Ukrainian republican directorate reported to Comrade Nikolayev, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Ukraine, about the situation.

In other words this was an official, if only verbal report. After this, the written reports began from the 27th, and on the 27th the Goskomgidromet [State Committee for Hydrometeorology] also reported in writing to the CPSU Central Committee, not just about the fact itself, but also with maps and diagrams of the pollution of the atmosphere, because the locality was difficult to separate from the atmosphere. It was the same in Belorussia: there were regular reports from the 27th. Subsequently, reports went in every day and were presented to a government commission, but I won't go into the details, just to say that all this was done.

[Shchelkunova] Thus, as you can see, comrades, the discussion of the candidate for the post of chairman of the Goskomgidromet is now becoming political, as is the discussion on correct information and the role of leaders at all levels in those tragic days. At the rostrum is Valentina Semenovna Shevchenko, chairwoman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR.

[Shevchenko] I am one of the representatives of the political leadership of the Ukraine about whom we are talking today. In addition, the Chernobyl zone is now my constituency. I would like to say, I would simply like to read to you some excerpts from a document.

First, conclusions: firstly, the radiation situation in the city of Kiev and the oblast, at present, does not present a danger to the health of the population, including children, and is within the limits of norms recommended by national and international atomic energy agencies in case of accidents at a nuclear plant.

Second, the level of radioactive substances contained in food products at present constitutes no danger to the population.

Recommendations: First, an analysis of the radioactive situation in the city of Kiev demonstrates the absence, at present, of indications of the need for the population, in particular children, to be evacuated to other regions.

Second, to inform the population through the mass media, television and radio, about the situation and the measures being taken.

Dated 7 May, 1986, signed Izrael and Ilyin.

So, this information and these conclusions with proposals, conclusions and recommendations was received by the political leadership of the Ukraine on 7 May, at the persistent suggestion and request of Comrade Shcherbitskiy. You remember, Yuriy Antoniyevich, when we invited you to the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, you informed the whole Politburo, when it was proposed that you write a note with recommendations and conclusions, and when you and Comrade Ilyin worked the whole day on this note and the Politburo of the Central Committee of the communist Party of the Ukraine held a session at 2330 to examine your conclusions and recommendations. You remember very well that when you were sitting at the table opposite me, I asked you a question: Yuriy Antoniyevich, what would you do if your own grandchildren were in Kiev? You remained silent. On the basis of your silence, we insisted to the Politburo, and the Politburo adopted the decision to evacuate children from the city of Kiev. And I am very greatful to absolutely all the fraternal union republics which took in our children and as a result of this we, so to speak, were able, perhaps, to prevent greater illness, more widespread illness among children.

Now, Comrades, I would like to say that Yuriy Antoniyevich knows very well, and you are very well aware, that the nuclear plant is an installation of union-scale significance, and at this installation, absolutely all conclusions, and proposals are put forward by the State commission of the USSR. Yes, the tragedy took place on the 26th. On the 27th, Comrade Boris Yevdokimovich Shcherbina, chairman of the USSR State Commission and other members of the commission arrived at the installation. On the 28th, we were ready to take people out, to evacuate, and from 0800, 1,806 buses were standing in this zone in order to evacuate the entire town of Pripyat. Only at 1400 did the State Commission give us its consent to the evacuation of people from the town of Pripyat, and the evacuation of the population was organized between 1400 and 1800.

All the other decisions taken by the USSR State Commission were undeviatingly carried out by the political leadership of the Ukraine, working most efficiently round the clock, taking absolutely all measures and coordinating all its actions with the political leadership of the country.

Yes, Yuriy Antoniyevich should probably have said today that this depended not only on us. It depended on many factors, because, even today, as he has stated, there are still serious consequences and we still do not know the consequences of the accident at Chernobyl. We found ourselves in a complex situation, in an emergency, when nobody knew what decisions should be taken and what actions to be guided by. Today, we still do not know what to expect, and I think that Yuriy Antoniyevich, occupying such a high state post and being responsible for an exceptionally importance section of work, should occupy a standpoint not of compromise, but a standpoint of great principle, and I will vote against you, Yuriy Antoniyevich, and appeal to the deputies from the Ukraine to vote against you.

[Shchelkunova] After Shevchenko, Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov asked to speak.

[Ryzhkov] I would like to throw light on certain aspects of one problem, just one problem, about which Comrade Shevchenko spoke so fervently just now. This is the issue of the Chernobyl disaster. We must, quite soberly, evaluate the situation there at the time, and what is happening there today. I asked to speak because, exactly 3 days after, at the decision of the Politburo, an operational group of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo led by the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, was assigned and given broad powers to eliminate the extremely complex situation that had developed at that time during the Chernobyl disaster.

Obviously, there is no need for me now to describe in detail what we did. We did everything that we could have done. Everything that we understood, we did in order to save people. And also, I think, applies to the 2 years or more that the commission worked: it worked for 2 years from 29 April 1986 to 1988. In 1988 it did indeed cease to exist and its functions were handed over to a government commission. Let me say that the situation was most difficult. It's easy enough now to argue today about why such and such was not done in such and such a way, and so on. But then, at times every moment counted, decisions had to be taken quickly, responsibly and in a qualified way, because it was a matter of people's lives.

We have heard here of a meeting of the Ukrainian Politburo on 7 May. I don't know, I was not present at that Politburo meeting. But I know that was with you on 2 May. On the second. Do you remember? You do. Do you remember that we went to the zone with the political leadership? But that was before 7 May. I do not wish to accuse anyone, but I think it is quite wrong to accuse today those people who did everything to save the situation.

The second matter. It was a special situation, and I have to say that alongside the fact that tremendous human effort and material resources were involved in order to extinguish the fire that broke out there, we were not aware of the possible consequences. There could have been far worse consequences than those which did occur. We were forced to, and we did the right thing here, we involved the finest scientists known in our country. They were physicists, including the late Valeriy Alekseyevich Ligasov. He helped us as a physicist. He gave recommendations to us, the operational group. And I have to say that he does not deserve to be forgotten. There was the physicist Velikhov, I cannot see him here today, who was also there, who also gave recommendations. Or take Academician Ilyin, who took certain decisions on health care. Comrade Chazov was not yet health minister at the time. And I have to say that the scientists whom we gathered there at the disaster site, the very best of the scientific world, included Comrade Izrael, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, whom we are discussing today.

Serov, Kirichenko, Approved

LD1207154989 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent from the Kremlin:

The USSR Supreme Soviet today continued the discussion of Soviet Government candidates.

Valeriy Serov, 49, has been appointed chairman of the USSR State Committee of Construction. For many years Serov, a building engineer, worked at various Moscow construction organisations and in the past three years he was a deputy of the USSR State Planning Committee (GOSPLAN) chairman. The candidate was asked many questions about the very important social programme, namely whether it will be possible to provide every Soviet family with a flat or a house by the year 2000. The candidate believes that the task is feasible, provided two conditions. First, apart from state sources it is necessary to attract other funding sources—means of enterprises, cooperatives, personal savings. Second, it is necessary to carry out a great amount of organizational work and exercise tough control over the implementation of the programme.

The parliamentarians discussed the candidature of Vadim Kirichenko, a 58-year old dr of sciences (economy), for the post of chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Statistics. In the past two years he worked as head of the economic section of the USSR Council of Ministers' Administrative Department. Setting forth his programme, the candidate said that the main task was to ensure the trustworthiness and reliability of statistical data which will help restore confidence in Soviet statistics. He declared for broader public openness and intensification of the analytical function in the work of his department which will make it possible to forecast the development of various processes in society.

By a majority of votes the Soviet parliament appointed Vadim Kirichenko head of the Statistical Service of the country.

The discussion of Gennadiy Yagodin's candidature began today. He is recommended again for the post of chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Public Education. But it has been decided to continue the discussion of this question at tomorrow's morning session because of the importance of the problem and lack of time at today's session.

TASS Summarizes Meeting

LD1207171989 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

The hall where the Supreme Soviet holds its sittings looked more festive than usual today, with huge bouquets of roses flanking the Presidium's table on the podium.

The flowers were a tribute of gratitude to the MP's [members of parliament] from the Soldiers' Mothers committee—a social organisation—for the parliament's decision on Tuesday to grant all student conscripts an early discharge from the Army.

The measure will benefit more than 175,000 young men who will now be able to return to study at their colleges and universities as early as next autumn.

The gift came as a pleasant surprise, which didn't, however, make Supreme Soviet deputies any less exacting in their debate on candidates for chairmen of state committees.

One nominee subjected to fastiduous scrutinity was Yuriy Izrael, an incumbent proposed again to head the State Committee on Hydrometeorology. He won confirmation after a careful comparison of arguments for and against his candidacy.

Forty-year-old Vladimir Shcherbakov, endorsed as chief of the State Committee for Labour and Social Affairs, became the youngest member of the Council of Ministers. He had earlier worked on the latter's staff.

Vadim Kirichenko, also previously a staff member of the government, was confirmed as head of the State Statistics committee, while Valeriy Serov, for the past three years a deputy chief of the State Planning committee Gosplan, was made chairman of the Construction Committee.

After the full-scale parliamentary sitting, one of the Supreme Soviet's chambers, the Council of Nationalities, held a separate meeting.

Acting on instructions from the Congress of People's Deputies, it formed the following commissions:

—a commission on the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous region (chairman—Sergey Manyakin, a people's deputy from the Communist party),

—a commission on Soviet Germans (chairman—Gennadiy Kiselev, leader of one of the Council of Nationalities' standing commissions),

—a commission on Crimean Tatars (chairman—Gennadiy Yanayev, secretary of the Central Council of Trade Unions).

It was announced that other commissions will be formed on other small ethnic groups.

The Supreme Soviet will meet in full-scale session again tomorrow to continue discussing the government.

Ryzhkov Defends Izrael

LD1207203189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1526 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Speech by Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov from the recorded relay of the USSR Supreme Soviet's 12 July morning session proceedings held in the Kremlin]

[Text] Esteemed comrades: I have asked to speak in defense of Comrade Izrael, and not in order to answer all the questions that were put to him or those errors that he made in his work.

I would like to throw light on certain aspects of one problem, just one problem, about which Comrade Shevchenko spoke so fervently just now. This is the issue of the Chernobyl disaster. We must, quite soberly, evaluate the situaton there at the time, and what is happening there today. I asked to speak because, exactly 3 days after, at the decision of the Politburo, an operation group of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, led by the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, was assigned and given broad powers to eliminate the extremely complex situation that had developed during the Chernobyl disaster.

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The second matter: It was a special situation, and I have to say that in adddition to the fact that tremendous human effort and material resources were involved in order to extinguish the fire that broke out there, we did not know the possible consequences. There could have been far worse consequences than those that did occur. We were forced to—and we did the right thing here—we involved the finest scientists known in our country. They were physicists, including the late Valeriy Alekseyevich Ligasov. He helped us as a physicist. He gave recommendations to us, the operational group. And I have to say that he does not deserve to be forgotten. There was the physicist Velikhov, I cannot see him here today, who was also there, who also gave recommendations. Or take Academician Ilyin, who took certain decisions on health care. Comrade Chazov was not yet health minister at the time. And I have to say that the scientists that we gathered there at the disaster site, the very best of the scientific world, included Comrade Izrael, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, whom we are discussing today.

Therefore, I am convinced that if we had not attracted at that time our—the very cream of our society—our scientists, we would not have coped with that tragedy, or even if we had, then we would have made even more mistakes than, unfortunately, there are today. And I must say that we should be saying thank you today to the scientists who actually rendered such assistance in eliminating this national tragedy.

Of late, especially in Belorussia, the situation has become very exacerbated in the polluted areas and a very strong state of social tension has been created. I think there are many factors here, not just one. There are medical matters, social matters, moral- psychological matters, and so on, and during the Congress I met with the comrades-people's deputies from Belorussia. We managed to fix certain things, and I asked them what they thought should be done so that at the end of the day we agree on everything. But what if we do not trust our scientists, if different points of view are revealed among us on this or that situation in the matter of pollution, and so on? Let us set up an international commission—we have set one up; the commission has been working. This commission was already working by 21 June. I will not list who was present there; if necessary we shall provide the fullest information, but I would simply like to read out what they said. On the basis of all the discussions, the WHO experts decided on a dosage of 35 rads as a dosage limit in the postdisaster period. They agreed that this was a conservative estimate and meant that the risk to health was very small compared with other risks during a person's lifetime. The limit of 35 rads is based on modern international risk assessments to health from ionized radiation.

And their final conclusion: The experience obtained by the Soviet scientists in eliminating this disaster places them in the forefront in directing postdisaster situations. They have a unique opportunity to assist other countries in developing plans to combat disasters. The hope was expressed that this experience would be presented to the appropriate organizations whose programes were connected with antidisaster preparation. Signed: (Billing-Tusson), (Belerand), (Waite). These are members of the WHO commission who worked here in the Soviet Union.

That is the first thing. The second is this: We agreed with our Belorussian comrades that we should indeed once more look closely at the whole complex of possible material-technological measures connected precisely with the survival of people in this zone. Such measures were prepared by our Belorussian comrades in the Belorussian Council of Ministers. They are currently being examined in the Council of Ministers, and at the end of July, as far as I am informed, the Belorussian Supreme Soviet will examine them. And Comrade Daguzhiyev, as deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, who is currently responsible for these matters, will be taking part and everything necessary will be done. I can tell you one thing, comrades. During the work of the operational group of the party Central Committee, any decisions that we had to make were always made from the point of view of the individual. Even if only 5 percent were in favor of taking this decision—if it was connected with people's lives or their health—we would decide in favor of these people. This was a principle of the work of our operational group. And in this respect, I must say that everything was done to ensure that the individual, his health and his condition were given priority.

Comrade Daguzhiyev has begun carrying out his duties. Yesterday evening, we adopted a decision on dividing the functions between the deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers—that Comrade Daguzhiyev would be in charge of these bodies of state administration such as the Hydrometeorological Commission, the Committee of Nature Protection—in other words, a decision about what was discussed today, so that they should be concentrated in one person. We adopted this decision yesterday evening. I think it was a correct one and that it meets those requirements which were voiced here today.

Well, now the final matter. It is the business of the deputies of the Supreme Soviet to decide on Comrade Izrael, whether he can head the committee or not—that, of course, is a matter for you. But I would ask only one thing when you determine his fate. I am firmly convinced that the blame for Chernobyl must not be placed on him. He did everything as a scientist to put the situation right and to ensure that we come out of this dsiaster with the fewest losses.

Izrael Sees 'No Hazard' in Missle Destruction

LD1207122589 Moscow TASS in English 1102 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

Concern over the radiological situation in the country and particularly in the area of the Chernobyl nuclear power station determined the entire course of today's discussion by the Soviet parliament of the candidacy of Yuriy Izrael for the post of chairman of the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology.

This 59-year-old scientist has headed the Soviet Hydrometeorological Service, whose function is to monitor the environment, for 15 years.

Members of the Soviet Parliament asked questions about the situation in the area of the Chernobyl accident, around nuclear test sites, and the extent to which the information provided by the service headed by the candidate is reliable.

In answer to the questions, Izrael said that ever since the Chernobyl accident in April 1986, data on radioactive contamination of the environment and radiation levels had been transmitted to the government of the country and union republics and to regional governing bodies.

There is no secrecy in this regard, the candidate emphasised. Radiological data concerning 1,900 villages which are located within the disaster area was issued this year.

Izrael said the radiological level in the area of the nuclear test site near Semipalatinsk posed no hazard to the environment: it does not exceed 23 microroentgen an hour, which is slightly more than the natural radiation bckground level (10-15 microroentgen an hour)

The candidate also said that a thorough survey carried out by the country's meteorological service in the areas of the recent incidents involving Soviet nuclear-powered submarines revealed no increase in radiation levels.

Speaking of a possible influence, including a non-radioactive one, which the elimination of intermediate and shorter-range missiles may have on the environment, Izrael said that the elimination of shorter-range missiles at Sary Ozek (Kazakhstan) posed no hazard.

As far as intermediate-range missiles are concerned, no problems arose during the elimination of individual missiles at Kapustin Yar (Volga area) either.

However, when the destruction of missiles in packages of nine began, the committee's services recorded deviations from norms in the condition of the air. Therefore it was recommended to the USSR Defence Ministry that missiles should be destroyed in packages of not more than three missiles.

Izrael's answers did not satisfy many deputies who accused him of deliberately distorting data on radiation following the Chernobyl accident.

Members of the Parliamentary Committee on ecological issues came out in defence of the candidate. They proved that such assertions were groundless.

Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov pointed to Izreal's personal contribution to the elaboration of optimum safety measures in the days following the Chernobyl accident.

Ryzhkov recalled that the International Commission of the World Health Organisation worked in the Chernobyl accident area in June this year and came to a conclusion that the existing radiation background level does not pose a risk.

The commission, Ryzhkov said, highly evaluated Soviet specialists' activities and recorded in its conclusions that Soviet scientists' experience gained in the Chernobyl accident clean-up operations may be of immense importance for controlling post- accident situations.

The Soviet parliament by a majority of votes appointed Yuriy Izrael chairman of the USSR State Committee of Hydrometeorology.

Recorded Relay of 11 Jul Supreme Soviet Session

Pervyshin Elected Communications Minister

LD1107153989

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1400 GMT on 11 July begins broadcasting a recorded relay of the 11 July session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin.

At 1400 GMT Lukyanov opens the session to discuss Pervyshin's nomination as communications minister. Pervyshin takes the floor for a brief speech. In this 5-year plan, the rate of growth of production in the industry has been sustained at 156 percent, he says. The problem of providing all subscribers with adquate telephone connections will be facilitated with the conversion of military enterprises. Fifteen million people are now on the telephone waiting list. Satellite television will be developed. Gorbachev has signed a cooperation agreement with the French on developing satellite television. Mail communications is the weakest area in terms of automation of labor which leads to widespread delays in deliveries. A larger share of profits should stay at enterprises for redevelopment, Pervyshin continues. Hard currency should be traded at inner prices to enterprises.

Deputy Bogdanov asks about the possibility for the disabled to jump the telephone queue. Further questions are asked on poor levels of providing the countryside with telephone connections. The administrative apparatus of the ministry has been cut down by 25 percent.

At 1419 GMT Pervyshin ends the speech and steps down. Lukyanov says there are 20 people wishing to take the floor but they must limit themselves to 10 minutes.

At 1420 GMT Deputy Kolesnikov takes the floor saying that the ministry should be judged by results. The introduction of telefax machines could eliminate the need to send people on business trips. Another thing, a mechanism of natural rotation should be set up in the Soviet Government.

At 1424 GMT Deputy Sharipov from Ufa takes the floor. The quality of telephone communications should be improved. The USSR invests R2 billion a year, whereas the United States invests 22 billion. Minister Pervyshin has a good knowledge of the industry and rich experience of practical work, he says.

At 1430 GMT Deputy Pallayev takes the floor. The problem of television in Tajikistan is not being resolved. Entire oblasts are unable to watch relays of Supreme Soviet proceedings. Tajiks in Uzbekistan cannot watch Tajik television, and vice versa.

At 1435 GMT Deputy Krutov says glasnost is the instrument of people's power, and the Communications Ministry is the material and technical base of glasnost. Many people in Tajikistan and Georgia have been unable to listen to or watch Supreme Soviet proceedings. About 40 percent of the population cannot receive "Mayak". We should not be in any hurry to accept the French high-resolution television project as similar projects exist in other countries.

At 1439 GMT Deputy Nikolskiy takes the floor. Ministries of Communications, Electronics and Radio should be combined as they have much in common. The USSR is far behind in the production of equipment such as fax machines. Pervyshin does not have the required experience. Leningrad scientists do not support his candidacy.

At 1444 GMT Deputy (Kolpakov) says we are all consumers and we all suffer. The decision to affiliate the Soyuzpechat with the Ministry of Communications has not led to desirable results. He supports the nomination of Pervyshin.

At 1450 GMT Lukyanov suggests stopping the debate, but there are protests from the floor.

At 1451 GMT Deputy Smorodin takes the floor calling for the speedier introduction of new technologies to catch up with the developed countries. He also endorses the candidature of Pervyshin as an experienced official.

At 1453 GMT Lukyanov reads out two cables from deputies calling for more attention to the industry on the part of the Supreme Soviet commissions.

At 1454 GMT the vote on Pervyshin is taken: 443 are present, 76 are against, 65 abstained. Therefore, Pervyshin is confirmed.

At 1458 GMT Deputy Filshin takes floor on the rules of procedure, claiming that there was no quorum during the vote.

At 1500 GMT Kondrat Terekh, the nominee for the post of minister of trade, ascends to the platform. He begins by saying that his job is, perhaps, the least prestigious in the government and receives most criticism.

The recorded relay is continuing.

Terekh Candidacy Debated

LD1107160689

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1504 GMT on 11 July continues its recorded relay of the 11 July session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin.

Terekh continues, saying that there are R90 billion in circulation which are not supported by goods. Television sets are only manufactured in six republics, and refrigerators are manufactured in eight republics only. It is very difficult to cope with the selfish attitudes of officials in places who try to grab everything that comes their way and not release anything to other areas. Out of 7.5 million staff in trade most are women. The level of automation is a mere 15 percent. If inventions are not marketed, they are worthless. There is not enough equipment for catering enterprises. Staff are not provided with housing.

The wages in the industry are abysmally low, although they have been recently on the rise. Unfortunately, there are many dishonest people who have wormed their way into the industry and they are sullying our reputation.

At 1517 GMT Lukyanov allows 10 minutes for answers to questions. Many of the questions to Terekh, in writing, are related to the way he personally received food coupons and sugar coupons. He replies that he receives food coupons at his local housing administration, and as to sugar rations, he has not been taking sugar "for medical reasons" over the past 10 years.

There have been many questions concerning the output of motorcars which is now at a lower level than in 1984, Terekh continues. The ministry is not involved in the sales of individual cars. Next question, why there is neither sugar nor tea on intercity trains. Why has the output of motorcycles gone down?

Imbalances of distribution of food staffs and consumer goods between towns and the country will be redressed.

At 1529 GMT Lukyanov says nine people have put their names down to speak, some of whom will have to be given the floor.

At 1530 GMT Deputy Yakushkin takes the floor. Before the minister of trade can be made answerable, trade must be saturated with goods. Therefore, he will vote for Terekh.

At 1532 GMT Deputy Shapovalenko speaks: There has been no restructuring at the gum department store. Goods are often reserved at warehouses, just in case, whereas they should open their doors to trade. He will vote against.

At 1536 GMT Deputy Stepanov asks who is responsible for losses of foodstuffs during transportation? Where is the packaging the trade has been promised? Why are the conditions at work for trade staff so poor?

At 1538 GMT Deputy Moskalik, a cook from the Ukraine, deplores the poor material and technical base of trade. The problem of cadres is also quite acute.

At 1542 GMT Deputy Grigoryev says our trade is in a shambles, but it is the touchstone by which people assess the virtues of party and government rule. If the market is not balanced, no minister will be able to cope with trade. Shortages grow. A great deal of criticism is voiced about the Ministry of Trade, and it is justified, but the situation at the market itself should be taken into account to mitigate that criticism.

At 1547 GMT Deputy Andreyeva says the minister of trade must be answerable for shortages, and on top of that, the field of trade is a breeding-ground for criminals. Honest people get out.

At 1550 GMT Lukyanov puts the decision to stop the debate to the vote.

At 1554 GMT the count of votes is still going on. The majority of delegates are said to be in favor of stopping the debate, but there are angry voices of delegates pointing to the importance of the issue. Lukyanov announces a break for 20 minutes.

Semenov Approved as Power Minister

LD1107190589

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1555 GMT on 11 July continues carrying a recorded relay of the 11 July session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin.

Lukyanov suggests continuing the debate on Terekh's nomination.

At 1556, GMT Gross praises Terekh as a capable leader which he witnessed himself in Belorussia in the 1960's. He goes on to complain about cooperatives purchasing all the goods

At 1602 GMT Deputy Engver speaks on trade and the need to improve it, and the lack of goods on the market. He criticizes Ryzhkov's nomination for the ministry of trade.

At 1606 GMT Deputy Samarin says the deficit is a good thing for trade workers.

At 1609 GMT Deputy Dubko gives figures for food production on his farm. One alone cannot resolve the shortages. A solution must be sought in the system. He will vote for Terekhov.

At 1612 GMT Deputy (Savchuk) comments on a Leningrad furniture shop which is only open a few days because of shortages.

At 1615 GMT Deputy Mamotova comments on shortages and on the importance of incentive. Terekh is a good man for the job, she says.

At 1618 GMT Deputy Magamedov from Dagestan says people should be talked to about the food situation.

At 1621 GMT Deputy Yarin describes Terekh's virtues. He opposes contractual prices and calls for measures to end the black market.

At 1625 GMT Deputy Gritsenko says every shop is a shop window of restructuring. Forty million live below the poverty line. He notes the plight of old-age pensioners. He recommends Terekh's confirmation and advocates a program to take the consumer situation out of deadlock.

At 1630 GMT Terekh acknowledges the criticism. He has never been out of Belorussia and is reluctant to accept the job but promises to do his best.

At 1632 GMT the voting shows 5 against and 16 abstentions. The majority vote confirms Terekh.

At 1634 GMT Semenov is nominated as minister of power. Semenov speaks about the industry, its staff, etc. There are difficulties in many regions with electricity supplies; plans are not fulfilled. Capacities are enumerated. He says there will be no more big GES's [hydroelectric power stations] on plains rivers, mountain rivers are to be used for GES's. He notes the lack of housing for power workers and answers written questions about the use of small GES's and about the fate of some major GES's such as Rogun and Nizhnekamsk. There is a demand for the replacement of boilers in Krasnoyarsk by ecologically clean ones.

At 1655 GMT a deputy asks about people who have no electricity. Semenov notes the construction of substations. The deputy continues on about the lack of compensation for the use of land. A deputy asks about the rational use of water of the Dniester. Semenov says there are no projects on the Dniester. A deputy asks how much electricity is exported. Semenov says some goes to Mongolia and Austria. Forty billion kwh are exported a year, and this will grow to 54 billion.

At 1704 GMT a deputy asks about fines for farms which use too much electricity.

At 1705 GMT Deputy Kaznin asks about Kansk-Achinsk pollution and the harmful effluent flowing into China. Semenov says they will only be building three power stations instead of ten. A deputy asks about Chita Oblast; when will a named okrug get electricity?

At 1710 GMT another deputy asks Semenov about his attitude about inventor Romanenko. He says he does not know him. Semenov says new electricity rates are approved today; there will be a unified tariff—more expensive by 2-3 times in the countryside.

At 1713 GMT Deputy Akayev speaks about small-scale electricity generation and alternative power such as solar. In Finland solar power is used.

At 1716 GMT Deputy Bruz says Semenov is capable of leading the industry and makes points about the structure of the industry.

At 1720 GMT Deputy Lashchenov from Tajikistan comments on the price of electricity there. There is a need for GES's there. He will vote for Semenov.

At 1723 GMT Deputy Vidiker reads a letter from the electorate noting the lack of electricity in Kazakhstan.

At 1727 GMT Deputy Sazonov speaks on Naberezhnyye Chelny and the troubles there because of the electricity monopoly. He complains about the building of an atomic station in spite of protests by scientists.

At 1734 GMT Deputy Oleynik from Ukraine comments on the concentration of atomic power there. Chernobyl should be wound up, he says.

At 1739 GMT the voting shows 2 against, and 21 abstentions. The majority is in favor of Semenov's appointment.

An announcement calls for various commission members to meet. A 15-minute recess is then announced.

Yakovlev, Sychev Elected

LD1107191389

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1740 GMT on 11 July continues the recorded relay of the 11 July session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin.

Lukyanov says some deputies have posed the question of releasing servicemen called up in 1988. Ryzhkov speaks about this. He says the Council of Ministers is submitting a resolution on releasing servicemen in August to go to college.

At 1746 GMT Deputy Boykov asks, why not the sailors? Ryzhkov says that it includes them. Lukyanov reads out the draft resolution to release in August for studies servicemen students. The resolution is put to the vote: 5 against, 3 abstained. Passed by majority vote. Applause.

At 1750 GMT V. Yakovlev is nominated for the Ministry of Justice. Yakovlev speaks about the state ruled by law, the independence of the courts, and cadre questions. He reads out a question from a Moldavian deputy on strikes and how to deal with them. He reads a written question from a deputy about tax.

At 1807 GMT a deputy talks about the Baltic.

At 1812 GMT a deputy talks about the work of lawyers and their difficulties. She mentions corrupt people whom the law needs to deal with and about legal reform and the need to protect children.

At 1817 GMT Deputy Ignatovich says he will vote for the candidate. However, a minister of justice should not be within the Council of Ministers because he is subordinate there while he should be independent, he says.

At 1820 GMT Deputy Lushnikov says the Soviet system of jutice is in crisis. There is lack of coordination. Reform should be boosted up.

At 1825 GMT Deputy Golik says the Ministry of Justice is needed and it should be reinforced.

At 1828 GMT Deputy Denisov from Leningrad says he supports Yakovlev. The problem of the status of the militia should be examined. It is aimed at suppression now and needs restructuring.

At 1831 GMT Deputy Oleynik says he supports Yakovlev. Rehabilitation of those who were convicted during the Brezhnev time is required because they suffered innocently.

At 1833 GMT Lukyanov puts Yakovlev to the vote. One against, six abstentions. Yakovlev is voted in as minister.

at 1835, GMT Lukyanov proposes Sychev as chairman of state committee for quality and standards, and calls upon him to speak.

Sychev describes measures to improve quality of production.

At 1847 GMT Deputy Engver says he supports the candidate.

At 1851 GMT Deputy Kurtashin says the corresponding commission supports the candidate.

At 1854 GMT Deputy (Katorauskas) from Lithuania suggests that the committee's name should be changed.

At 1856 GMT Lukyanov puts Sychev to the vote. Three against, seven abstentions. Sychev is appointed chairman.

The recorded relay is continuing.

Tolstykh Approved, Izrael Speaks

LD1107201789

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1857 GMT on 11 July continues the recorded relay of the 11 July session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin.

Tolstykh is proposed for chairman of the computer and information committee. Tolstykh says that the situation in his sphere is critical. A way out should be found.

At 1909 GMT Deputy Bagdanov says computer equipment used in schools is appalling, in no way can schoolchildren be trained on them. Other kinds of Soviet hi-tech equipment are no better.

At 1911 GMT Deputy Ryzhov says the corresponding committee supports Tolstykh.

At 1913 GMT voting on Tolstykh takes place. No votes against, 14 abstentions. Tolstykh is elected.

At 1915 GMT Izrael is proposed as chairman of the committee for meteorology. Izrael speaks. He acknowledges criticism as correct and will do his utmost to put things right. Information on pollution in towns has been published. Data on Chernobyl radiation is available now. Izrael is questioned about radiation in Belorussia and other radiation problems.

At 1931 GMT Deputy Ivashkov says people are worried and do not trust the authorities. The issue of whether or not local authorities know the true radiation levels is a complex one and should be examined without rush.

At 1934, GMT Izrael says that experts from other countries have confirmed his data.

At 1938, GMT Lukyanov proposes to postpone the discussion until tomorrow.

At this stage the session closes and the recorded relay ends.

Yakovlev Chairs Commission Session on 1939 Pact

LD1207173289 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—A commission entrusted by the recent Congress of People's Deputies with providing a political and legal assessment of the Soviet-German non-aggression treaty of 1939 met today under the chairmanship of Politburo member Aleksandr Yakovlev.

It heard working groups' reports on locating and studying documents dating from that time and held an exchange of opinions on how to go about fulfilling its mission.

Four Killed in Explosion at Gas Processing Plant

LD1307083589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0735 GMT 13 Jul 89

[Text] Kazan, 13 Jul (TASS)—A powerful explosion on the night of 12 July shook Almetyevsk, capital of the oilmen of Tatariya. A gas fractionating installation exploded at the Minnibayevo gas processing plant. Four workers were killed and six were injured.

A government commission has been set up and has conducted a preliminary investigation. It has been established that because of a propane leak, there was a conflagration and then an explosion. It was so strong that it damaged neighboring installations and blew out glass in buildings more than 1 km away.

At present all gas pipelines have been shut down. The fire has been completely extinguished. Fire fighters from the military fire service subunit have worked selflessly; by cooling neighboring installations they prevented them from catching fire. Construction organizations of the Tatneft association have started restoration work.

CPSU Roundtable Views Ethnic Issues 30 Jun

LD0107154189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 30 Jun 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Socio-economic problems of ethnic relations was the subject of a roundtable meeting today of the Academy of Social Sciences attached to the CPSU Central Committee. Over to our commentator Aleksandr Krutov:

Good evening, comrades. It's too late to lock the barn door after the horse has bolted. I remembered this proverb today, when I was listening to the discussion among scientists, sociologists, party workers, and people's deputies. I think that you will agree with me that as far back as 4 years ago many of us considered that the nationality question had in principle been resolved in our country. This was stressed in the CPSU program, too. But the events in Kazakhstan in December 1986 were a bitter lesson for our complacency. Later on there were a whole bunch of nationality problems: the Crimean Tatars, Nagorno Karabakh, Fergana, the situation in the Baltic republics, in Moldavia—you can't enumerate them all. One can hear it said that restructuring is guilty in this matter, but is this the case?

Notice, and this was noted today at the roundtable, that all the flash points are in regions where peoples were resettled or frontiers were extended by the harsh hand of Stalin. Then Khrushchev also adopted a policy of sitting on the fence in relation to these problems. And Brezhnev? On the one hand he rushed events, said that we already had a single Soviet people which was above the nations, and on the other hand he gave away power in some republics to local leaders, who being themselves corrupt, played up to national feelings and ambitions and busied themselves with national demagogy.

That is, I want to say that these problems came to a head a long time ago. They were simply driven inwards, but nevertheless were bound to blow up. And today the most complicated and dangerous thing is that an explosion of other problems is occurring at the same time: social problems, economic and political problems. And in the speeches today it was stressed that if the economy of the country were to develop dynamically and effectively, and scientific and technical progress were to involve all spheres, if we did not live at a worse level than in the developed countries of the West, then such an exacerbation of relations between the nationalities might not be the case today.

Discussion today is not only about extending the scope for independence of the republics and narrowing the rights of the center—this is unavoidable. Discussion is also about changing the very structure of the Soviet Union. Yes, there are two alternatives in the resolution of the nationalities question. These are either confrontation, which will unavoidably lead to an explosion in different forms, to moral and material losses; or compromise, concessions to another. In a word, it is a matter of searching for original solutions and answers which correspond to our life today.

NKAO Leaders Brief Gorbachev on Rally

NC0107092389 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 30 Jun 89

[ARMENPRES correspondent A. Grigoryan report: "On Developments Around Nagorno Karabakh"]

[Text] Stepanakert, 30 Jun, ARMENPRES—A sactioned rally took place at the Nagorno Karabakh Autonomous Oblast's [NKAO] capital during the evening of 27 June. Among the participants were Valeri Atadzhanyan, first secretary of Stepanakert party city committee; Vachagan Grigoryan, first secretary of the Martuninskiy party raykom and USSR people's deputy; Valdimir Tovmasyan, a member of the NKAO Special Administration and chairman of the People's Control Committee of the oblast; Maksim Mirzoyan, chairman of the Stepanakert City Soviet Executive Committee; and Semyon Babayan, a member of the NKAO Special Administration Committee.

They briefed the rally about their meeting in Moscow with M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The speakers underlined that a just solution to NKAO problem could be achieved only through democratic means. They expressed the hope that the upcoming first meeting of the Soviet of Nationalities' Commission on Nationalities Policy and Interethnic Relations, which will discuss the situation prevailing in the NKAO and then report its findings to the USSR, Supreme Soviet, will be productive.

The participants in the rally declared that a solution providing for the reunification of NKAO with Soviet Armenia will be in full accord with the wishes of the Armenian population of the autonomous oblast.

'Free Enterprise Zone' Urged for Armenia

PM0207184189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 3

[Interview with Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, by own correspondent S. Bablumyan: "Option for Renewal"—date and place not specified]

[Text] [Bablumyan] The misfortune which has literally shaken Armenia will be remembered for a long time to come. It will be remembered by the lasting pain of human loss and people's shattered lives—to say nothing of the devastation, which is perhaps comparable to the consequences of the postwar years [as published]. More than 6 months have passed since 7 December. How, Suren Gurgenovich, do you regard the present situation in the republic and what do you feel should be done to restore the loss as soon as possible?

[Arutyunyan] Before I talk about what can be restored, rebuilt, and returned, I feel it is my duty to pay my respects once more to the memory of those who have gone forever. Time is really powerless to ease the terrible pain that the whole country and, without exaggeration, the whole world shared with us.

The earthquake did not just carry off tens of thousands of human lives, it also wiped entire production and social complexes from the face of the earth. This is an enormous loss of production and productive potential, built up in the course of more than one generation. One-third of the national wealth has been lost: Approximately R13 billion, 170,000 workplaces, 80 percent of the enterprises in the disaster zone, and 530,000 people left without a roof over their head. Figuratively speaking, the geophysical fractures and fissures covered the entire structure of social relations—production, social, moral, and ethical—and affected the spiritual and psychological state of our people by making their sense of national and social defenselessness more acute. And if, despite this, people have withstood this terrible blow from the elements with dignity, it is thanks to the fraternal support they have been given by all the people and certainly is not least a result of the genetic instinct for self-defense which has evolved over the ages. I remember the words spoken by one of our foreign friends who arrived in Armenia during the first days of the disaster: "I have seen a nation under ruins but not a ruined nation."

The earthquake hit the economically most developed northwest zone (excluding the Yerevan agglomeration), with the cities of Leninakan and Kirovakan. In this respect it is important to point out that the remaining regions of the republic—both in comparison to the disaster zone and between themselves—are distinguished by very appreciable differences in their levels of socioeconomic development. The problem of removing these differences, even without the earthquake, objectively required the adoption of most radical economic measures. When discussing the restoration of the economy in the earthquake zone, it should be borne in mind that there must be a parallel rectification of mistakes in our economy made during the stagnation era.

[Bablumyan] Here it would obviously be appropriate to give at least one specific example...

[Arutyunyan] Of course. Judge for yourself: Is there any point in recreating a situation whereby more than 100 enterprises and associations in the republic's leading sector—machine building—were subordinate to 14 union ministries and departments, produced 130 groups of products, but functioned in isolation from one another? The absence of cooperation between enterprises, poorly developed territory, very broad, but weak production specialization, and other defects of the old economic management system cannot possibly be cured by single injections—and, besides, there is no point. We see the main way of extricating the republic's national economy from its economic and social stagnation as lying in active implementation of economic reform and maximum use of all its reserves and potential.

We have felt not only the shock waves of the earthquake but also some economic and sociodemographic shocks. The extent to which we succeed in extinguishing their force will depend on our efforts to ensure the social rehabilitation of the population, overcome the negative demographic consequences of the natural disaster, and preserve the people's genetic stock.

At the same time, we must not underestimate the need to introduce progressive structures of transformation and create mechanisms precluding serious disproportions in the development levels of individual regions in the republic. A great deal, of course, will depend on our ability to channel the enormous reserves of social and political activeness among the people.

We regard the organization of an economic free enterprise zone as an effective way to unravel the tight, tangled knot of problems.

[Bablumyan] But do the preconditions for creating this kind of zone in Armenia exist?

[Arutyunyan] As far as I can judge, a free enterprise zone is not a standard model with which you have to conform. There are various forms and systems of such zones, which result from the specific aims set at the time of their formation. The economic, ethnic, territorial-geographic, and resource conditions and features of the region should also be taken into account. It is no less important to create the preconditions for developing foreign economic integration processes. I am convinced that the economic reform currently under way creates highly favorable preconditions for organizing such zones by promoting the development of foreign economic ties.

Another quite serious argument is the republic's industry, with its clear orientation toward technologically complex, high-technology sectors such as electrical engineering, radioelectronics, machine tool building, and instrument making, as well as light industrial sectors and some other sectors in which the republic holds impressive positions in our country.

[Bablumyan] The republic's scientific, technical, and intellectual potential could also serve as a serious argument in favor of a free enterprise zone.

[Arutyunyan] Yes, that is so. The proportion of sectors ensuring scientific and technical progress amounts to more than 40 percent. The republic's education and skills potential is also high. Armenia's surplus manpower—particularly now, when the elements have destroyed thousands of workplaces—must also be seen as a precondition. And the republic is rich in raw material resources important in construction, as well as hydromineral and ore resources.

[Bablumyan] I have written more than once about the assistance given to Armenia from all over the world during the disaster. Now there is every reason to believe that, since the earthquake, the interest of foreign states, firms, and organizations in economic, scientific and technical, and currency and credit cooperation with Armenia has sharply increased.

[Arutyunyan] Here I must also mention the fairly strong, extensive Armenian diaspora, which plays an active role in the economic and cultural life of developed capitalist countries. Once again we have seen for ourselves their patriotism, their well disposed-attitude to our country, and their readiness to give material and financial assistance to their historical native land. The climate of charity which has formed around Armenia as a result of the earthquake and the willingness of many states to provide long-term aid and promote the republic's economic development also have considerable significance. At the same time, we must show prudence in our choice of possible alternatives when developing the republic's foreign economic ties and determining the areas of joint enterprise.

[Bablumyan] You have given the arguments in favor of setting up a free enterprise zone in the republic. But drawing up an integrated concept for the organization of a free enterprise zone is a very considerable task. What could you say about this?

[Arutyunyan] Some study of this concept has already been made, although we have yet to produce a final version. Practice shows that without a properly considered state strategy with specific, phased targets and—something very important—the mechanisms for achieving these targets, it is impossible to make any progress, because the mistakes and miscalculations made during the choice of strategy are hard to rectify later on. In developing the idea of creating a free enterprise zone, we will have to seriously review the ideology of planning and management in all spheres: social, scientific and technical, technological, cadre, educational, and commercial. Only by gradually entering the complex world of foreign economic relations and arming ourselves as we go along with experience of independently running and managing a modern economy can we really count on success.

[Bablumyan] What are our priority aims with regard to introducing a free enterprise zone?

[Arutyunyan] First and foremost we must aim to resolve the most urgent, vital economic and social problems of the earthquake zone—a gaping wound in Armenia. If they are to be resolved properly and as soon as possible, we need to develop new approaches, innovative economic methods, and forms of instruments for directing the complex process of reviving the region's economy. For example, restoring and developing the economy in the earthquake zone, which now resembles a vast construction site, means simultaneously resolving the problem of territorial distribution of productive forces both within the earthquake zone itself, which covers 19 administrative regions, and outside the zone. So there must also be a new policy for the optimum distribution of modern production facilities and for reducing the number of obsolete installations. In this respect we should proceed from the need for sensible specialization taking into account the economic and social interests of each individual territory. In short, we regard foreign economic cooperation and the creation of joint ventures as an intensive factor in the solution of this problem. In the first stage, modern enterprises will be established chiefly in the sphere of developing a new base for the construction industry, medical and health establishments, and the processing complex and rebuilding and modernizing existing production facilities which must determine the republic's long-term economic specialization.

Mixed, joint ventures set up on a small and medium scale will proceed from the prospects for their technical interconnection and compatibility in order to subsequently make the transition to different complexes and the highest forms of foreign economic integration. Naturally, the achievement of this—we will be frank—long-term aim also presupposes the reverse process: the curtailment of some traditional industrial sectors whose output it is more advantageous to import, from both an ecological and an economic standpoint. If we are talking about the order of priorities we would like to secure within the framework of a free enterprise zone, they are as follows: First, to create harmoniously interlinked social and production structures in the earthquake zone; second, to eliminate disproportions in the socioeconomic development of the republic's regions; third, to ensure intensive growth in the republic's economy; and, last, to attain a new quality of life for the people.

[Bablumyan] One more question. What, in your view, could be the specific features of free enterprise zones?

[Arutyunyan] It seems to me that these features will stem from the specific characteristics of the economic and social problems being resolved by each particular region and from the degree to which the economic and sociopolitical structures are receptive to innovative processes. They will depend on our professional competence in the management of foreign economic relations, on legislative restrictions connected with questions of the union republics' political and economic sovereignty, and, finally, on the degree of the state's responsibility for the chosen course of development.

Proceeding from this broad range of objective features, in the first stage the free enterprise zone in Armenia would be wholly geared to resolving the strictly internal social and economic problems concerning the earthquake zone.

Independent Lithuanian Militia Urged
LD0107222789

[Editorial Report] Vilnius in English to North America at 2200 GMT on 30 June broadcasts a report on a letter signed by a group of "high-placed militia officials" that appeared in "the most popular Lithuanian daily" at the beginning of the week. According to the report, the letter opens with "a very worrying prognosis of crimes that will be committed in Lithuania this year": 400 deaths from gunshots or stabbings, 100 rapes, and 10,000 robberies. At the same time, the letter "notes that the militia are not to blame for the present situation in Lithuania. It is already obvious that without the assistance of society the militia will not be able to restructure their activities."

The letter goes on to note the level of opposition to the militia among the people of Lithuania. "People simply do not trust them, eyeing them suspiciously, as mere strangers and executives of Moscow's orders," the letter is quoted as saying, adding: "If you in Lithuania want order and peace and do not want to shed any more tears of despair, you've got to help us seek an independent status for the Lithuanian Ministry of Internal Affairs."

The announcer says: "As one of the authors of the open letter, (Raimondas Rindokas) says, the initiative to write it came neither from top nor bottom. Meanwhile, one thing is clear: The upper echelons, both in Moscow and Vilnius, do not support the idea of creating national militia forces in Lithuania." (Rindokas) says: "Nobody can really say how soon our militia forces will have their own uniforms. Meanwhile, the Lithuanian minister of internal affairs has been invited to work in Moscow, and as of this Monday has begun to work as a first deputy minister of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the USSR."

'Crisis' in Lithuanian Party Organ Detailed

LD0107221589 Vilnius in English to North America 2200 GMT 30 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Until several months ago, the Lithuanian Communist Party was the only political party in Lithuania which had absolute power. At present its members are involved in heated debates and discussions: To be or not to be an independent organization from Moscow which would cooperate with the CPSU on a parity basis—that is the question to be answered today. [passage omitted]

The party organization of Siauliai was recently overtaken by a crisis. The first secretary of the city's committee was forced to resign when following a no confidence vote by his colleagues all of them handed in their resignations. A month before it was pointed out that the Siauliai party leader (?Vachlovas Volkovus) could no longer realistically assess the present political situation in Lithuania in general and in Siauliai in particular. The conflict was solved, as we see, only by a set of extreme measures and things did not stop at that.

The first secretary of the Siauliai party committee is now Mindaugas Stakvilievicius, an assistant professor at the Siauliai teachers' training college, a member of the Lithuanian reform movement, Sajudis, and a Lithuanian MP. At the head of the party in Siauliai, as Mindaugas Stakvilievicius said in a recent interview, is a person who quite recently seriously criticized the party committee as being the headquarters of stagnation and bureaucracy. I think this is the first case in the entire Soviet Union that a person practically without any experience as a party worker and who was a member of the opposition ruling body was elected boss of the party committee of a large town.

Mindaugas Stakvilievicius joined the Communist Party back in 1958. What his party position was throughout all those years is not known, but from his political platform it is crystal clear that Mindaugas Stakvilievicius belongs to the group of party members who do not believe in the Communist Party as the only party knowing the right answer to every question on absolutely every occasion.

This group, or let us say the movement within the Communist Party, is made up of a large part of Sajudis members, the greater majority of Lithuanian MP's, and finally the present leadership of the Lithuanian Communist party, which no longer pursue a policy of concessions to the Eastern neighbor but have instead devoted their activities to the restoration of an independent Lithuanian state.

[Begin Stakvileivicius recording in Lithuanian with superimposed English translation] I think that everyone who can should work for Lithuania's sake, says Mindaugas Stakvilievicius, the new leader of the Siauliai party committee. and it is not only the Communist Party whichis taking part in this work. We plan to cooperate with the Democrats, the Social Democrats and the Lithuanian Liberty League. After all, our goals are more or less identical. If being a Sajudis member I have been chosen as the first secretary of the city's Communist Party, this does not at all mean that there won't be any contradictions between the committee and the Sajudis leadership. Actually contradictions are essential because they are the driving force of life. In the complicated realities of today nobody has the right to have the monopoly of the truth. My dream is to implement a principle according to which the people of Lithuania would not express the position of one or another political party but rather the position which would be the most important and rightful with respect to the interests of Lithuania.

This is why I cannot declare that I will support either Sajudis or the Communist Party. People are people and mistakes can be made by everyone. I think that we have to think over each step we make very carefully indeed. [end recording]

This summer there are plans to create a new model of a party committee, at least that is what Mindaugas Stakvilievicius wants, who incidentally firmly believes that the great instituations in the party's activities succeed due to the unlimited power enjoyed by local party committees. Stakvilievicius thinks that the party should be totally engaged in ideological issues. If power it enjoys is not abused people will slowly learn to tolerate the opinion of their opponents. This approach would lead to real political pluralism in (?the) multiparty system which the newly-elected party chief, Mindaugas Stakvilievicius, openly welcomes. [passage omitted]

Lithuanian Komsomol Congress Concludes 17 Jun

18001317 Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 20 Jun 89 p 1

[ELTA report]

[Text] The Congress of the Lithuanian Komsomol [All-Union Lenin Young Communist League] concluded on 17 June in Vilnius at the Academy Theater of Opera and Ballet.

The Congress adopted the statutes and program of the revived Communist Youth Union, the resolution "On the Independence of the Communist Youth Union of Lithuania," and other documents.

V. Berezov, second secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the Congress.

Alfonsas Matsaytis was, by secret ballot, elected first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Youth Union Central Committee. Nikolay Liventsev was elected second secretary, and Raymundas Shivis and Vidmantas Zhilenas were elected secretaries.

One hundred and thirty-four Komsomol members were elected members of the Lithuanian Communist Youth Union Central Committee and a Control Committee of 41 members was formed. Sharunas Birutis was elected chairman of the Control Committee.

A plenum of the newly elected Lithuanian Communist Youth Union Central Committee took place. Fourteen Komsomol members were elected members of the Lithuanian Communist Youth Union Central Committee Bureau. The editors of youth newspapers and journals were approved at the plenum.

Latvian Officials on Sovereignty, Independence

LD0107181189

[Editorial Report] Riga in Latvian to Europe at 2005 GMT on 11 June broadcasts a 30-minute conversation with members of the Latvian People's Front in the framework of the "Amber Coast": program. The participants in the conversation are chairman Juris Rozenvalds, political committee member Ivars Godmanis, and members Ints Calitis, Janis Skapars, and Janis Ruksans. The identity of each of the contributors to the conversation cannot be ascertained from the recording.

Talking about the need to adopt the appeal by the People's Front of Latvia on 31 May, one of the participants says: "Firstly, the question of sovereignty was already proposed at the People's Front congress, but 8 months have gone by and nothing has changed in this respect." The tendency toward centralization has been increasing and the old authoritarian mechanism has been gearing up for a major counteraction. The laws on criminal responsibility, on insulting officials, on internal armed forces, the events in Georgia, all these things show that the central power's bureacracy has learned nothing.

"Secondly, the people evidently want to state their position on this very firmly, also within the People's Front." This is especially important with respect to the elections in the fall. "We must be absolutely clear about this question in order to be able to appeal to the people, to talk to the people." The agreement of the Baltic Assembly, between the councils of the peoples' fronts, and all the resolutions have made them adopt a different position. This appeal was the next consistent step in the policy of the People's Front.

The rightness of this step was confirmed all the more because Ryzhkov has publicly declared that the principles of sovereignty drawn up by the Baltic republics are largely unacceptable to the center. Not only Ryzhkov, but also the atmosphere at the Congress of People's Deputies was not especially favorable to the endeavors of the union republics, including the Baltic republics, for greater independence.

Another speaker says: "We must understand that Latvia is a state and not only a republic. This is also stated in the Constitution. And talk about sovereignty is the same as talk about the conception of independence. Without this conception, without a clear formulation about this conception, we will not be able to go into the fall elections united. What the Supreme Soviets of Estonia and Lithuania did a long time ago has not been done by our Supreme Soviet and this question has not even been put on the agenda—the question of sovereignty and, in the final analysis, the right to property.

"And here, after all, our present situation must also be taken into account—both the demographic situation and the situation in the communist party—because there are significant differences between the stance of the Communist Party of Latvia and the Communist Party of Estonia."

Pursuing the parliamentary path, it is also possible to use the means of struggle used throughout the past year—the manifestation of the will of the people at meetings and demonstrations. Another form of struggle is the collection of signatures. A million signatures have been collected by the People's Front concerning amendments to the USSR Constitution.

"In any case," a participant in the discussion says, "we must proceed further with this quesiton so that our parliament must be capable of expressing the will and the wishes of the people.

"Therefore, it is completely natural that we proceed toward a multiparty system. This is an unavoidable process and the sooner it takes place the better. This will be the least harmful way. It would be a healthier process because it would be a natural one. At present, this movement from below is very developed and very active.

"But in order for there to be full-blooded parties, legal guarantees and a law-governed state are necessary, which only parliament is able to give us."

"I would also appeal to all members of the People's Front of Latvia to seriously consider three questions: the conception of independence; the self-dependence of the economy of the state of Latvia and the kind of model we would prefer; and finally, how we will relate to the nationalities situation in the republic and how we will influence it in a normal, democratic way."

Ukrainian UN Association Established

LD0107164289 Moscow TASS in English
0930 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Kiev July 1 TASS—A United Nations association has been set up in the Soviet Ukraine. This gives fresh opportunities to the Ukrainian public to participate in anti-war and peace-making action and other mass activities held under U.N. auspices.

The Ukrainian U.N. association has been founded by the republican Academy of Sciences, Kiev University, the Ukrainian Peace COmmittee, the republican branch of the Soviet Peace Fund, the Ukrainian Friendship Society, the republican Committee of Youth Organisations, trade unions, the National Culture Foundation, the Journalists' Union, and other organisations.

"The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic is one of the founders of the United Nations Organisation", Academician Arnold Shlepakov, the association's chairman, told TASS.

"Ukrainian Foreign Minsiter Dmitriy Manuilskiy was the chairman of the committee which worked out the text of the preambule of the U.N. Charter. Other representatives of the Ukraine took part in the elaboration of the statute of the U.N. Security Council, were members of the committee which determined the powers of the General Assembly and the economic and social council and engaged in drawing up the statute of the International Court. Few U.N. member-nations, including the founders, have such tangible facts to their credit".

The academician regards the establishment of the Ukranian U.N. association as yet another reaffirmation of the Ukrainian people's commitment to the lofty ideals and goals recorded in the U.N. Charter.

The participants in the constituent conference of the association adopted an address to the U.N. secretary-general, reaffirming their readiness to contribute to enhancing the U.N. prestige in the republic and in every way to support the peace actions of the United Nations.

Belorussian Communist Party Leadership Analyzed

PM0207171589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
1 Jul 89 Second Edition p 2

["Thoughts Following the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum" by correspondents A. Simurov and A. Ulitenok: "Barrier of Three 'Whys'"]

[Text] Minsk—We would not be stretching the truth if we say that everyone in the republic awaited the latest Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee plenum with special interest. This stemmed from the very promising agenda: How to strengthen the influence of party committees and organizations on the sociopolitical situation in the republic at the contemporary stage of perestroyka.

And now the plenum is over. The participants have dispersed to the localities. They are pondering the results of the dialogue. They are adapting the plenum's recommendations and demands to their own everyday affairs. But what is in their soul, in their thoughts? Let us listen to some of them.

V. Polyachenok, member of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee and a Minsk fitter-assembler:

"I express my anxieties with three 'whys': Why have we Communists in a number of cases lost our influence on the masses; why do we sometimes let party prestige fall; and why do people frequently judge our party only by the activity of the party committee's apparatus? The plenum gave the answers to some of these questions. But not to all. So we must continue thinking. My proposal may be of use to the cause: to place all party apparatus workers—from party raykoms [rayon committees] to the Central Committee—on the party register in labor collectives' primary party organizations."

A. Lashkov, first secretary of Brest Gorkom [City Committee], said this:

"On the whole, there are more questions than answers, and this puts the party aktiv in a difficult position. I would like to see and hear more frequently, in particular, personnel of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Ideological Department headed by Comrades V. Pechennikov and S. Pavlov in republic television and radio broadcasts and in labor collectives and to read their articles on discussion problems in the newspaper pages."

G. Zabrodskiy, leader of the Communists of Grodno's Oktyabrskiy Rayon, who was invited to the plenum, was categorical:

"At the plenum I sensed a definite discord between the report and the debate. The Central Committee Bureau's report, delivered by First Secretary Ye. Sokolov, proved amazingly calm, did not contain specific political guidelines, recommendations, or proposals, and did not make objective assessments of the Central Committee departments' work, while the debate, on the contrary, gripped the hall with its sharply critical approach."

In this connection we thought: You could add to the definition "calm" also "nonspecific," not containing an in-depth analysis of major problems in the life of labor collectives and party committees and organizations. Time and again you come up against long-familiar twin cliches. Look how progressive experience was analyzed. It is reported that someone has made more appreciable progress in one sphere, and someone else in another. After the next comma there is a list of five party gorkoms and raykoms, and then it is added: They are persistently improving their work style and skillfully strengthening their influence on party organizations and labor collectives.

Can others derive something useful for themselves from such an "analysis"? It turns out that we have gotten away from the economy with its specific features but have not yet arrived at party political methods of work. If we have acquired something, we do not always know how to express and interpret it.

Things are no better regarding the addresses of criticism. Who should draw which lessons, let us say, from a number of failures by certain Communist candidates in the last elections? You will find practically none of this in the report. It states this: Certain party and soviet workers and economic leaders were not elected. As though they do not have names, no reasons exist (each one with his own), and no lessons—personal and bitter—follow. We say this in the realization that the party, of which each of us is a small part, is not indifferent to what has been said. This point is all the more important because Belorussian Communists did not manage to discuss the election results at a special plenum right after the election ended. And there was a natural expectation that this plenum would put everything in its place. The time of emotion, it seems, must give way to cold reason and considered analysis. Unfortunately, this did not appear in the report either.

Where are we still losing out? This question was put repeatedly from the rostrum. And there were answers. Members of the Central Committee Bureau inadequately conduct a dialogue with people, visit the provinces little, and speak unconvincingly and featurelessly. Ideological work is still of a defensive nature and is carried out with an eye to the past. Policymaking is frequently based on deskbound notions, not on life. Personnel of the Central Committee and of Minsk Obkom and Gorkom most frequently conduct themselves quietly and inconspicuously among the masses, endeavor not to enter into political arguments, and do not always know how to defend their positions. However, not only leaders but also all Communists are called upon to master this ability today. This was said, in particular, by A. Malofeyev, first secretary of Minsk Party Obkom, and G. Buravkin, chairman of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting.

"Lagging behind events is inadmissible today in the work of party committees, at all levels," V. Selitskiy, first secretary of Mozyr Party Gorkom, is convinced.

He has drawn this conclusion from his own past blunders and today's changes. People in Mozyr have realized that the consolidation of party organizations with the intelligentsia can provide a very great deal that is useful. People there argue as follows: By virtue of its specific position in society, the intelligentsia frequently seeks to have an independent view of everything and its own philosophy for perceiving the surrounding world. It most actively influences people. It is difficult to resolve any tasks without its support. Mozyr Party Gorkom specially discussed this question at one of its plenums. It drew up a system of actions and regular meetings with the intelligentsia and involves it in formulating the most important party decisions. The conclusion is incontestable: A special, well thought-out system of work with the intelligentsia is needed. Its pressing, urgent nature is dictated by the processes under way in the republic.

The Belorussian language problem can serve to illustrate what has been said. Today it has at last been deemed obvious that things are bad here, and a special program has been compiled to revive the authority of the native tongue. But it is hard to say when it will start working at the real, required strength. There is approval in words but a standstill in practice. And here, as time has shown, this will be of no use without the intelligentsia's active participation.

The Vatican has moved more quickly—it has approved a Belorussian translation of the Bible at the request of priests here in order to convey "God's" word more intelligibly to the flock in Belorussian—and not in Polish.

The majority of the speakers were of the opinion that multifaceted party work cannot be raised without leaders characterized by a single word: "personality." Intelligent, erudite, thinking, and respecting the opinion of others. There is no arguing with this. The need for this is dictated by life itself, as it were. Party workers require more profound, humanitarian training. Particularly given these statistics: More than two-thirds of gorkom and raykom secretaries, including practically all first secretaries, are specialists in physical production. In determining the nature and the style of the work of the whole apparatus they frequently unwittingly impose technocratism and miss fine psychological nuances when constructing their clumsy "policy" of relations with those same independent associations. Might this not explain the lack of very important political qualities in many party leaders—tolerance, respectfulness, democratism, flexibility, and preparedness for reasonable compromises?

We do not set ourselves the task of assessing the fact that two founding congresses have taken place outside the republic over the past 6 months—first, of young people's informal associations and, a few days ago, of the Belorussian People's Front for Restructuring, "Adradzhenne" ["Rebirth"]. Such an assessment is the prerogative of party and state forums. We will say one thing—a stance of intolerance or avoidance does not do the Belorussian party organization credit. And the reasons and grounds for the continuing crude attacks in the press and at meetings on the outstanding Belorussian writer Vasil Bykov are quite incomprehensible. Is it not because he has his own personal opinion on everything?

The development and renewal of the republic party organization's best traditions and attentive regard for public opinion will certainly assist the accelerated perestroyka of party work in the republic. Conversely, to ignore them and to make extensive, unthinking use of old, long-obsolete methods could deepen mistrust of party committees and give rise to disappointment and undesirable excesses.

...Addressing the plenum participants, the main speaker urged them to engage in a frank, sharp, constructive exchange of opinions. Let us agree on this, he said: Whatever is on your mind, air it from the rostrum. Good advice. The speakers made extensive use of it in the plenum hall. And we follow it in the newspaper.

Nikonov on Economic Problems in Maritime Kray

PM0407132589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
30 Jun 89 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Comprehensive Development of the Fishing Sector"]

[Text] The Far East basin, which provides more than 40 percent of the All-Union fish catch, has an important part to play in the solution of tasks on improving the country's food supplies. At the same time, recently a multitude of social, economic, and moral problems has accumulated in the sector and is hampering its further development and preventing state orders from being fully implemented.

These and many other questions were concentrated on at a Far East basin fishermen's conference in Vladivostok.

The conference was attended by V.P. Nikonov, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

"People judge our work not in terms of plan fulfillment percentages," Yu.I. Moskaltsov, general director of the "Dalryba" basin production association, said in his report, "but by the presence of fish and fish products in the stores."

There were hard-hitting but, at the same time, constructive speeches by A.M. Nikishkov, master production engineer on the floating base "Severouralsk"; A.Ya. Reshetnikov, substitute crew captain at the "Dalmoreprodukt" production flotillas association; V.V. Voronovskiy, "Dalryba" basin production association captain; V.D. Konovalov, a mate at the fleet's Far East base, and others.

The conference was addressed by V.P. Nikonov.

Talking about the economic problems of the Far East, the CPSU Central Committee secretary looked at the efforts being made to meet the targets of the long-term state program for the comprehensive development of production forces in this important region.

Recent years have seen some positive improvements here. Industrial output increased by 13.4 percent in 1988 compared with 1985, with the 5-year plan targets for that year set at 12.8 percent. There was some improvement in agricultural development indicators. There was a marked expansion in the construction of housing and other social and consumer facilities.

At the same time, the implementation of many program targets is deviating from the set timeframes and volumes.

The situation in agricultural production is slow to improve. In 1986-1988 in the region as a whole plans for purchases of grain, potatoes, and vegetables were not fulfilled. There has been virtually no increase in vegetable and potato production volumes and they remain below the projected targets. There have been great losses of agricultural products during procurement, storage, and processing.

In terms of the total catch of fish and nonfish fishery items the level envisaged by the program for 1995 was reached last year. This significant increase was achieved as a result of intensification of catches of the most common and accessible types: Alaska pollock and sardines. But when it comes to other types of products the achievements are much more modest. Given an overall increase of 18 percent in the catch of fish and other marine products, the Alaska pollock catch was up 29 percent and the sardine catch increased by 45 percent. At the same time, the mackerel catch was 3.6 times smaller and the squid catch was 1.5 times smaller. Catches of halibut, flounder, and other valuable types were also smaller. Because of the USSR Fish Industry Ministry's failure to implement measures on the creation of a large-scale salmon farm in the Far East in 1982-1990, envisaged by a CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution, an alarming trend of reduced salmon catches has been apparent in the past 5 years.

Recently, V.P. Nikonov said, the CPSU Central Committee and other central organs have received dozens of telegrams and letters from crews of fishing vessels and onshore services expressing the seamen's deep concern over the stagnation phenomena in the fleet and in the country's fishing industry in general and pointing out the urgent problems that have been waiting to be solved for years. They include the need to replace dilapidated and antiquated ships, the inadequate mechanization and automation of fishing and processing operations, the increased labor intensiveness, unsatisfactory housing provision, the limited pay, and the shortcomings in pension provision. There were hard words about the expansion of glasnost and democracy in labor collectives, and the need to reorganize the sector management system and eliminate superfluous intermediate components.

What can one say in this connection? The fishing sector has always enjoyed enormous party and government attention. As a result it has been able to accumulate a large production potential and is now doing a great deal to increase the volume of fish goods production. Despite many unresolved problems the current 5-year plan targets are being fulfilled. In the 3 years, so far 2 million tons of fish and marine products have been caught in excess of the plan and 276,000 tonnes of edible fish products have been produced. Labor productivity has increased by 16.7 percent during this period—nearly twice as much as envisaged by the plan.

There have been enormous transformations in the fish industry in the Far East, which can rightly be considered the country's main fish factory. In only the first 3 years of the current 5-year plan the Far East fishermen have caught 1.4 million tonnes of fish in excess of the plan.

But, the CPSU Central Committee secretary said, what we are talking about here is the problems which have not been solved or which are being tackled badly. In particular, the utilization of fixed capital. In this connection, during the 10th and 11th 5-Year Plans R3.8 billion were invested in the development of the Far East fishing industry. In the 12th 5-year period it is planned to assimilate R4.2 billion, or more than 50 percent of all the capital investments allocated to the ministry, that is, more than the sum assimilated in the previous 10 years. But by no means the best possible use is being made of the production capacities established in the region.

The fishing fleet has serious design defects and a poor quality of construction. Many fishing vessels created in recent years are poorly mechanized and are considerably inferior to their foreign counterparts in terms of the power-to-weight ratio, speed, and navigation and search technology. The bulk of the responsibility rests with the union ministry apparatus, its main administrations, the basin associations, and, above all, specialists of the "Giprorybflot" institute and the sector staff who coordinate the designs.

Ship repair is obviously in a bad way, although the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry and local organs are making a poor job of dealing with questions of increasing ship repair capacities by means of new construction, reconstruction and retooling, and increasing the average machine shift.

These questions need to be solved immediately for another reason. As is known, the 9th 5-year plan saw a sharp reduction in the fleet's supplies to the fish industry, so the writing off of 1,500 fishing and 1,700 auxiliary ships was delayed. The fleet has aged and it undoubtedly requires special inspections and large-scale repairs. At the same time, a great effort is needed to provide new ships. What is needed is vigorous work by our shipbuilders, efficient exploitation of the capacities of USSR Shipbuilding Industry Ministry enterprises, including the capacities made available as a result of conversion of defense sectors.

V.P. Nikonov also touched on such important aspects as the utilization of the economic zone's raw material resources and particularly the coastal waters and the intensive use of the fleet in fishing activities in the open sea. The Far East basin is richer than any other in very valuable types of fish and marine products, which must be properly handled.

The quality and range of fish products is causing particular anxiety. The proportion of undressed marine fish is still rather high.

Our fish industry, which is a world leader in terms of catch size, falls considerably short of world standards in terms of equipment and technology. The proportion of workers engaged in manual labor is 54 percent in the fleet and 65 in shore enterprises. At the same time, there is a rather powerful scientific-technical potential. It is particularly large in the Far East, where 12 scientific research and planning and design and other organizations are operating and 5,500 scientists, engineers, and designers are working. But this major scientific-technical potential is being inefficiently utilized.

Scientific-technical progress is an acute issue. The leaders of "Dalryba," production associations, and fleets are not handling it properly. The machine building base in the basin is weak and fails to meet the fish industry's needs. The plants which were supposed to be built in the cities of Nakhodka and Ussuriysk to make fishing and production equipment and spare parts have not been created. Little is being done to start the construction of machine building plants in Petropavlosk-Kamchatskiy and in the city of Artem in the Maritime Kray.

Sector development is being hampered by serious errors in investment policy and inefficient utilization of allocated capital investments. Funds are being invested mainly in the development of passive fixed capital which does not increase capacities. As a result, capital availability in the sector had doubled in 1988 compared with 1975, but the return on capital had fallen.

The housing problem is extremely acute and requires the closest attention. The waiting list for housing is increasing from year to year rather than diminishing. People are often forced to register and then live all the time on the ships. In recent years the state and the sector's enterprises have increased the allocation of funds to improve social conditions for fishermen, but, obviously, centralized capital investments are not doing the job. Wider use must be made of the potential for individual and cooperative housing construction, by actively involving labor collectives and the fishermen themselves in this work.

During his stay in the Maritime Kray from 26 through 29 June V.P. Nikonov visited the Vladivostok city fish combine—the leading enterprise in the Far East fish sector—and an industrial exhibition including hundreds of types of future and current fish products, fishing gear, and various mechanisms and attachments to make fishing easier.

In Nakhodka, city of seamen and fishermen, there was a meeting with the collective of the large highly mechanized enterprise that produces cans.

On the "Dalmoreprodukt" production flotillas administration floating base "Pishchevaya Industriya", V.P. Nikonov talked with crew members.

V.P. Nikonov also visited the "Vostok" and "Nakhodkinskiy" sovkhozes [state farms] and the "Nakhodkinskaya" poultry farm and had a conversation with the Partizanskiy Rayon party-economic aktiv.

V.P. Nikonov was accompanied on his trips by A.A. Volyntsev, first secretary of the Maritime CPSU Kray Committee, and V.F. Lutsenko, chairman of the Kray Soviet Executive Comnmittee.

Cooperators Union Protests to Gorbachev

18001299 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Jun 89 p 2

[Article: "The Fate of the New Cause in Danger: Two Million Soviet Cooperators Are Sounding the Alarm"]

[Text] Members of the cooperators' union that brings together cooperators of 70 oblasts and autonomous republics of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] came to the LITERATURNAYA GAZETA editorial staff a couple of days ago. They stated that they had sent a letter to the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and relayed the text of this letter. Here is what it says:

"We are addressing you on behalf of almost 2 million people who have linked their lives to the cooperative movement in the USSR in response to an appeal from the CPSU and our country's government.

"We, people of many specialties—workers and peasants, builders, technologists, physicists, physicians, teachers, candidates and doctors of sciences, inventors, and production innovators—today are not confident of tomorrow, of our future and the future of our children.

"Having created cooperatives, recognized them legally, and proclaimed our right to work freely, the state actually counterposed us with financial and economic monopolies and the army of bureaucrats whose actions are destroying our economy and socialism in our country.

"On the one hand, our appearance was perceived by the administrative-bureaucratic system of the national economy as a sign of its future demise and, on the other, taking advantage of its power, the monopolistic economic apparatus is trying to adapt cooperation to prolong its power and life."

The letter goes on to point out that the bureaucracy is creating in the eyes of the people an image of the cooperator as the enemy of restructuring and that with its legal acts it is nullifying the rights and opportunities prescribed in the law on cooperation and is forcing the cooperators to go against the law and their conscience.

The cooperators write that people do not consult with them and are not interested in their opinion when publishing acts that regulate the activity of cooperation, particularly when imposing new taxes. The government—the cooperators think—is receiving information from that same bureaucracy that provides distorted facts and figures concerning the activity of the bureaucracy.

The authors of the letter ask Mikhail Sergeyevich to receive them for a direct and open discussion of the future of cooperation in the USSR.

Commentary of the LITERATURNAYA GAZETA Section For Social and Domestic Problems

Three days later, on 1 July, the ukase of the Presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet concerning taxation of cooperatives went into effect. According to it, they will be paying up to 60 percent of their total income. It will be impossible for the majority of cooperatives to exist—they will simply go bankrupt.

LITERATURNAYA GAZETA has warned about this threat several times: "Cooperation and the Bureaucracy: Which is on Top?"—LG 3 May 1989; "So, Is It the End of Cooperatives?"—21 June 1989.

The Russian ukase directly contradicts the union law on cooperation, which says in Article 21: "For purposes of increasing the incentive for cooperatives to expand production, their income (profit) is taxed according to stable rates set for no less than 5 years."

Only a year has passed since this decree appeared, but the ukase has increased the tax rates severalfold.

At one time the cooperators with the help of the press fended off the first destructive attack from the financiers who proposed a similar system of taxes. And this is the second "resolute assault"...

We are talking about a "rule-of-law state" and here we allow state officials to use legally binding departmental acts to play havoc with and flout the law. It is typical that the ukase is directed primarily against production cooperatives—industrial, construction, and technical—that have a material base and are investing money in its development. And this ukase deals the lightest blow to those who most truly deserve public wrath—speculators, intriguers, and those who skim off the profits without investing anything. For they have no material base and they can always conceal their income from the financiers or else simply "cross their palms."

This is far from the first anticooperative action taken by our departments. In April 1987, the USSR State Committee for Prices issued instructions according to which state enterprises and organizations were instructed to sell the cooperatives everything they needed—fabrics and thread, leather and gasoline, machine tools and motor vehicles, construction materials and radio parts—at prices 3, 5, or 6 times higher than state prices! This forced the cooperators to raise their prices and purchase goods in retail stores, and it set the public and the people against them. When people (including deputies) speak with such obvious hatred for the "greedy cooperators" do they know that entire associations and unions, including the All-Russian union, which unites 2 million people, have officially announced their readiness to sell goods and services only at state prices and rates or below them, but under the condition that the state sell them everything they need at state prices?

The Russian cooperators are right: In many legally binding acts and actions taken by our monopolistic administrative and command apparatus one can see a clear, well though-out tactic: first, to conquer the competitor—the cooperator—and make him conform; second, to compromise him in the eyes of the people; and third, to crowd him, pressure him, and destroy him.

Millions of people who put their livelihoods on the line for cooperatives were deceived.

Where is the guarantee that this same thing will not happen to lease holders, individuals participating in joint productions, and other "volunteers for restructuring"?

The USSR Supreme Soviet has begun its work. Who better than it can put a stop to the rampant anti-cooperative activity of the bureaucratic apparatus?! We think the USSR Supreme Soviet should use its authority to invalidate the ukase of the Presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet concerning taxes and other legally binding acts. These documents should be adopted not secretly but after extensive discussion by the community and the deputies as has been the case in a number of republics. The taxes set there are more reasonable and many cooperators from Russia intend to register in other places than at home. The taxes are slipping out of Russia, for which we can congratulate the wise financiers of the Federation.

Co-Op Union Head on Issues Facing Movement

18280148 Moscow TRUD in Russian
29 Jun 89 p 2

[Interview with A.P. Dementev, chairman of the All-Russian Union of United Cooperators, by V. Golovachev]

[Text] **The all-union congress of representatives of cooperative unions and associations opens tomorrow in Moscow. On the eve of it we spoke with A.P. Dementev, chairman of the All-Russian Union of United Cooperators, about the problems of the cooperative movement which must be solved today.**

[Golovachev] Aleksandr Pavlovich, first of all about the forthcoming congress. In January, as we know, there was an all-union conference to prepare for the congress. There were representatives of approximately 21,000 cooperatives which employ more than 400,000 people present. Taking into account this numerical composition, the conference declared itself to be a founding congress. V. Sorokin was elected president of the union of cooperatives created there. But somewhat earlier another initiative group created an organizing committee to prepare for a more representative congress. So what is happening in the cooperative movement—separation or unification?

[Dementev] Well, the word "separation" is perhaps too strong and it does not correspond to the essence of the processes that are taking place. For on a voluntary basis cooperatives may create the most diverse associations, unions, and social alliances. Several unions of cooperators can exist at the same time and there is nothing strange in this; it is a normal phenomenon.

As far as I know, the union headed by V. Sorokin does not include cooperatives of lawyers, medical workers, and certain others. At the forthcoming congress it is intended to unite them—that is, to create, as it were, a union of unions. It is a voluntary but very necessary thing. Incidentally, representatives of the aforementioned union of production cooperatives headed by V. Sorokin are participating actively in the work of the organizing committee for the congress.

[Golovachev] Why is this union of unions needed?

[Dementev] It was emphasized in the address of the organizing committee to cooperatives of the country that many problems are arising in them that force them to unite at all levels—from the rayon, oblast, and republic to the country as a whole. In the sphere of production and services, the USSR union of cooperatives could provide for protection of the rights of the cooperatives and represent their interests in the state organs and social and international organizations, participate in the development of proposals for improvement of normative-legal documents on questions of cooperation, engage in propaganda of the cooperative movement, and conduct training and the increase of the qualifications of personnel, and so forth.

[Golovachev] Misgivings are being expressed that the new union of unions will become an administrative-command organization which will take control over the entire cooperative movement. That is, is this not an attempt on the part of the administrative system to master such an important sphere?

[Dementev] Well... I do not think we can rule out such a danger. But the congress is convening in order not to allow this. The union should be a protector and an assistant for the cooperators; not a directive, command organ, but a consultative-advisory one. Each association and each regional union or union created according to the branch or any other indicator has the right to freely join and withdraw from the union of unions.

[Golovachev] There are many complaints from the population about the activity of the production cooperatives. They are writing mainly about the fact that they establish high prices for products, make the deficit worse, and so forth. The flow of "hostile" letters is simply unending...

[Dementev] Yes, unfortunately, today many people are saying that it is mainly cooperators who are to blame for all of our economic problems. Yet it is namely the cooperative movement, if we do not destroy it from the very beginning, that is one of the levers for an economic upsurge. This means filling in the empty spaces and cracks in the national economy, developing competition, and filling and developing the socialist market. It means relying on skillful, inventive, and enterprising management. It means a sharp increase in labor productivity. Finally, it means a breakthrough in the area of acceleration of scientific and technical progress if the matter is organized properly.

And as concerns prices, I can state quite responsibly: If the cooperators are given a chance to acquire raw material, processed materials, and technical equipment without the coefficients that are being adopted today to raise their prices, and not at the speculative prices of the shadow economy but at state wholesale prices, we shall sell most of our products at prices even lower than state retail prices and only a few will be sold at state rates. But not higher. Now, as a rule, we still have to "get things" somewhere, to give somebody extra money—yes, sad as it may be, this is an unpleasant fact of life. And in Moscow, incidentally, such policies are practiced even more extensively than in many other cities. And if you have to purchase leather for footwear at three times the going price, you have to ask what the price of the footwear will be.

[Golovachev] But there are also cooperatives that engage in plain old illegal speculation. For example, they purchase T-shirts, "stamp" some fashionable inscription on them, and sell them at incredible prices. People have bought up all the T-shirts from the stores and the shelves are empty, so you have to go to a cooperative whether you like it or not...

[Dementev] This means that the state enterprises should increase the output of T-shirts so that there will be some in the stores. After all, it is wonderful when people purchase a commodity. The profit, turnover, and financial possibilities of the enterprise increase. This is with a normal economy. Now about the cooperative. If its products are in demand this means that the prices are not really so "incredible." The demand determines the supply. There should be a healthy competition between the state and cooperative sectors. Why should same factories not stamp the same kinds of inscriptions on T-shirts and sell them at a profit? The cooperatives would immediately reduce their prices. In a word, it is necessary to create a market controlled by economic methods and not by prohibitions. For over 70 years we have messed the economy up with administrative methods, and the socialist market will help to make it more vigorous and healthier.

[Golovachev] Does this mean that you support self-seeking cooperatives?

[Dementev] I just analyzed the situation. And as concerns "self-seeking" cooperatives, as you put it, I think the swindler and the speculator should be held responsible under the law whether they are in the state or the cooperative sector. I have already said it and I emphasize again: When equal conditions are created for state enterprises and cooperatives the latter will sell all of their products at prices no higher than state retail prices. Incidentally, yesterday I dropped in to the cooperative cafe Margarita's. I had a bite to eat and when I went to pay I was extremely surprised: R17. We do not have prices like that in Omsk cooperatives.

[Golovachev] Here you are talking about selling products at state prices. I think that far from all cooperators would support you in this...

[Dementev] I am confident that practically all of them will. There is no future for "self-seekers" anyway.

[Golovachev] Can you give even one example where the cooperative price is lower than the state price.

[Dementev] Of course. Before leaving Omsk I dropped in to a cooperative pancake store. The pancakes there were less expensive than in a state dining room. In the cooperative store there were 30 kopecks a portion and in the state store—77. Incidentally, there is pancake flour in the stores; the cooperators have not bought it all up.

[Golovachev] You are in charge of the Omsk cooperative Garmoniya-1. What does this cooperative produce and at what prices?

[Dementev] We do design work and interior decoration—all at state prices. We also do scientific research work on orders from enterprises. That is, we come to the aid of those who end up in a difficult financial position by utilizing the experience and knowledge of highly qualified managers. And we receive our remuneration only after the enterprise begins to show a profit. And another thing. Our cooperative is the sponsor of a children's music school—there are now 70 children studying in the preparatory division there.

[Golovachev] How much do you earn personally and how much do the average members of Omsk cooperatives get?

[Dementev] I have piece-rate wages—an average of up to R800 a month. As concerns all Omsk cooperators, it is difficult for me to say, but by and large their earnings are about the same.

[Golovachev] How do you manage to achieve this?

[Dementev] Our cooperators really earn their money. Minimum management personnel, excellent qualifications, high labor productivity. Take, for example, the cooperative that does photography at state rates. With their money the cooperators have purchased a modern Japanese camera (through the shadow economy, of course) and Czechoslovakian enlargers. The studio has been repaired. The chairman of the cooperative did not receive any earnings for almost 5 months. The cooperators leased a studio that was operating at a loss in a rural rayon. It is now producing a profit. The people work many times more intensively than the previous workers did and render more services. And they are paid correspondingly. This money is earned. And, after all, one must take into account how much of their own money was invested in the business earlier...

[Golovachev] The question of hired labor arises frequently. For a cooperative can ask one person or a group of people to work under a labor contract. Who guarantees the rights of the hired workers?

[Dementev] The contract. The wages and other conditions are indicated specifically there. Incidentally, the wages are usually no less than those of the cooperative members. And, for instance, consultants who are scientific workers get much more. But still there is a question here. This is why we think it necessary to create a trade union of cooperatives which would deal with these issues among others. But, of course, not only these. The sphere of activity of this trade union should also include the social insurance fund, the provision of passes to sanatoriums and houses of recreation, payment for hospital care, and many other things. For instance it would be possible to create an insurance supply—if a person is not ill the money from his social insurance goes into his savings account. He gets it when he goes on a pension. In a word, we need a trade union. I envision it within the framework of the AUCCTU [All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions] which has a great deal of experience in trade union work and considerable political clout. This question, of course, requires further development but there is no doubt that its time has come.

[Golovachev] Are you talking about a trade union of cooperators of the whole country or just one republic?

[Dementev] Today I am speaking about a trade union of cooperators of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic]. But in the future it will be possible to create confederations of trade unions of cooperators of the union republics.

[Golovachev] Let us return, however, to the problem of equalizing the rights of the state and cooperative sectors. State enterprises are also asking for this, incidentally, but they have in mind not material and technical supply but deductions from profit. For cooperators these deductions amount to a couple of percentage points, but for many enterprises they are 50-70 percent...

[Dementev] Yes, it is necessary to give us equal rights here,too. But here I must note that such discussions about the amounts of deductions are not entirely correct. The main thing is that the state enterprises deduct money from their net income after the funds for wages have already been distributed. And the cooperatives deduct it from the balance profit, which includes wages. That is, 1 percentage point for cooperatives is equal to a minimum of 5 for state enterprises.

[Golovachev] The ukase of the Presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet "On Income Tax Rates for Cooperatives" was signed on 6 June. It established that production cooperatives (except for kolkhozes [collective farms]) pay income tax into the budget at particular rates. For example, when agricultural products are produced it is 10 percent of the income; construction and repair of production, road, and civic objects—25 percent; production of consumer goods—30 percent. There are also even higher tax rates—from 35 to 60 percent. What do you have to say about this?

[Dementev] This, in my view, is the path to suffocating the cooperators. It would probably be simpler to take and close them down. For after this ukase many cooperatives will fall apart by themselves but with great torment. In general, world practice shows that after the tax has reached 30 percent there is no longer any incentive to create cooperatives and develop production. I am convinced that the tax experiments can lead (if the situation is not rectified) to a loss of R10 billion in real national output and hundreds of billions in potential output. And, moreover, people will lose faith in the possibility of making a living for themselves in the cooperative sphere. In my view, the tax should not be raised above the 10-percent mark if it is the cooperative as a whole that is taxed and not each one of its individual kinds of activity.

Raising tax rates will immediately cause a rapid price increase, for initially the cooperatives will try to compensate for the taxes in some way. And what does a price increase mean? It means increased social tension, even greater dissatisfaction of the population with the activity of the cooperatives, and impoverishment of the market. In a word, in my view, the consequences of this not very well thought-out decision will be sad.

[Golovachev] Will you speak about this at the forthcoming congress?

[Dementev] If I get the chance to speak I certainly shall. As you can see, there are many problems that need to be discussed.

Union of United Cooperatives Holds Congress

LD0107222689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1541 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 1 Jul (TASS)—The first All-Union Congress of Cooperatives in the Spheres of Production and Services concluded its work in Moscow today.

The congress participants adopted an appeal to the USSR Supreme Soviet for the suspension of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on the progressive taxation of cooperatives.

The need to regulate relations between cooperatives and the state was stated at the congress. The delegates also raised important issues such as combating racketeering and the need to assist the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs in this matter. They talked about creating conditions to prevent law-breaking in cooperatives.

The statute of the USSR Union of United Cooperatives in the Production and Social Spheres has been approved. A new all-union organization has thus been founded. The main areas of its work will be the formation and development of an organizational, informational, financial, educational, and social infrastructure for cooperatives, the development of their scientific base, and well-founded prospects for the future. Mechanisms for coordinating the interests of cooperatives and other organizations and developing foreign economic links also have to be created.

The council, presidium, and auditing commission of the new union have been formed.

Ruble Said To Be Convertible by Year 2005

AU0507124289 Paris AFP in English 1232 GMT 3 Jul 89

[Text] Paris, July 5 (AFP)—The Soviet Union will make its currency fully convertible by the year 2005, the country's incoming finance minister said here Wednesday.

"Although it is very dangerous to be too late, it is also very dangerous to be too far ahead," said Valentin Pavlov, who is visiting France along with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"What is most important is the target. I think we are going to solve this problem around 2001 or 2005," said Mr. Pavlov, addressing a meeting organized on the sidelines of the visit to discuss the Soviet policy of perestroika, or economic restructuring.

Mr. Pavlov noted that the currency could not be made convertible by a simple decree, as the move was "closely linked to the development of the economy in general."

He said the Soviet Union wanted to create "a socialist market governed by supply and demand."

"Prices of energy, bread and meat, and of all essential products needed to maintain living standards will remain under state control, and all the rest will have to be organized by the market," he said.

"We cannot shift directly to a market economy; that is not the solution to our problems," the official said.

Analysts noted that the most delicate economic task facing the Soviet administration was likely to be reform of the antiquated price structure.

Also at the meeting, Vladimir Shcherbakov, who is to be appointed labour minister Thursday, said that from January 1991 the Soviet authorities intended to shift certain trade exchange rates for the rouble to try to bring prices in line with international rates.

The currency would then have a single exchange rate for trade in the engineering construction industry and in chemicals, he said.

Replying to a comment made earlier on radio by French Finance Minister Pierre Beregovoy, Mr. Shcherbakov said he saw no obstacle to the Soviet Union eventually joining the International Monetary Fund (IMF), although "the circumstances have to be right."

Mr. Beregovoy had said that the Soviet Union "will join the club of great economic powers once the rouble is convertible and it enters the IMF."

Mr. Pavlov noted that the Soviet Union had signed all the documents which set up the IMF after World War II.

"Trade is an international reality, he said. "Money should not be allowed to rust; let's make money."

Economist Aganbegyan on Financial Reforms

AU0307140289 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 3 Jul 89 p 3

[Interview with Abel Aganbegyan, economist at the Economics Institute in Moscow, by Otmar Lahodynsky: "We Must Solve Financial Problems"—date and place not given]

[Text] [Lahodynsky] As you yourself have complained, economic restructuring is lagging behind political reform. What is the reason for this, and how do you want to eliminate stagnation?

[Aganbegyan] If we want to continue restructuring, the present financial crisis must be overcome. This requires resolute action. Expenditures for heavy industry and the military sphere must be reduced.

In addition to that, loans must be granted in order to bind the mass of free money. One step in this direction is the planned sale of apartments. We must stimulate the production of consumer goods and accelerate agriculture reforms. In doing this it is possible to pursue a policy of small steps or adopt more resolute measures than we have adopted so far.

[Lahodynsky] Do you think Soviet peasants should own the land they cultivate?

[Aganbegyan] I even consider this mandatory. "The land of the peasants," "The factories of the workers," "All power to the Soviets"—all these were slogans of the October Revolution and of Lenin; they should also be applicable today.

[Lahodynsky] At the Congress of People's Deputies, your colleague, Professor Schmelov, called for Western loans in order to import the required consumer goods and foodstuffs. Your pupil, Professor Kvint, suggested in an interview with DIE PRESSE that part of the Soviet gold reserves be sold to make the necessary money available. What do you think?

[Aganbegyan] We have already raised sizable credits in the West to expand enterprises in the foodstuffs industry and light industry. We have borrowed DM3 billion from the FRG alone. What is necessary is to make better use of the loans so that we are not forced to constantly acquire new ones. There are also plans to curb the weapons industry in order to extend the production of consumer goods. We are planning to expand this sector by 20 percent next year. We are preparing for a great leap forward.

[Lahodynsky] Gloomy reports on Soviet economic data have been emerging frequently recently. In addition to that, critical voices have emerged among the population that claim that people were better off under Brezhnev.

[Aganbegyan] It is true that conditions have deteriorated for many people in our country. However, there are only two ways of solving economic problems. One way is to activate the market forces and to grant autonomy to the enterprises. The second way is to return to the rigid centralistic system. We have tried the latter several times, which led to the brink of an economic disaster. Economic imbalance can only be eliminated through economic methods.

[Lahodynsky] Your colleague, Leonid Abalkin, who has just become deputy prime minister, has so far warned against accelerating the pace of economic reforms too quickly. He is much more cautious than you.

[Aganbegyan] Basically, our views do not differ very much. I am also against increasing sales prices until our financial system is put in order. However, as you know, if two economists are in the same room, there are at least three different opinions.

[Lahodynsky] When do you think the ruble will be convertible on the international money market?

[Aganbegyan] The ruble must first become convertible in the Soviet Union by creating a money market for state enterprises, cooperatives, and joint ventures. I think this will be realized by the end of the current 5-year plan period. Real convertibility will hardly be possible before the year 2000.

[Lahodynsky] What about the project of "free economic zones" where competitive products are to be manufactured on the basis of joint ventures? When will the first "free zone" be established?

(Aganbegyan] There are plans to start the first such zone in the Far East next year to process mineral resources.

[Lahodynsky] During his visit to the FRG, Gorbachev stated that the Soviet Union is already manufacturing competitive products. What products was he talking about?

[Aganbegyan] We are already selling 200,000 passenger cars per year. By expanding production, we can increase these exports to 1 million units.

We are producing aircraft that are sometimes superior to Western planes, such as the world's largest transport plane, like the one that also carried the "Buran" space shuttle. We have numerous orders in the field of satellites.

We are leading in electronics, in the field of high-voltage lines. Our turbines and equipment for gas pipelines and mines are competitive in the world market. Our technology is also able to meet competition in many spheres.

[Lahodynsky] The Baltic republics are striving for more autonomy. They are even considering the introduction of a separate currency. Are ethnic conflicts not a danger to restructuring?

[Aganbegyan] We are taking steps toward the economic sovereignty of all Soviet republics. The call for more autonomy is in keeping with the ideas of restructuring. The desire for a separate currency must be examined, but this would be a step backward. In 2 to 3 years' time we should be able to establish rules for free monetary transactions within the Soviet Union, which would make the republics' call for a separate currency superfluous.

[Lahodynsky] The Soviet Union is conducting talks with the EC on an economic agreement. What do you expect from such an agreement?

[Aganbegyan] In the sphere of trade, we are striving for the most-favored-nation status on a mutual basis. This means we are ready to stipulate equal conditions for both sides. This process is not only in the interest of the Soviet Union. Western Europe is also interested in our market. The next phase will be an agreement between the Soviet Union and the EC.

[Lahodynsky] Austria wants to become a member of the EC. How do you assess this move?

[Aganbegyan] We believe that every state, every people, and every government should determine their own future. However, it usually takes 6 to 8 years to become a member of the EC.

Yeltsin Interviewed on Housing, Construction Tasks

18001301 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA
in Russian 28 Jun 89 p 10

[Interview with B.N. Yeltsin, USSR people's deputy and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Construction and Architecture Questions, by Ye. Domnysheva: "I Am Not a Proponent of Half Measures"—date and place not given]

[Text] [Domnysheva] Boris Nikolayevich, in our view, one of the most difficult areas was entrusted to you. For you have to deal with housing and capital construction, and we know what the situation there is. What role will the new committee be called upon to play in solving the problems that have accumulated, and will it be able to change or correct anything, say, in the actual strategy of the branch?

[Yeltsin] I view the committee for construction and architecture mainly as a legislative and control organ. By no means should its functions be confused with those of the ministry. The ministries should come to us with suggestions, and after a thorough discussion the committee will decide whether to accept or reject them. At the same time, of course, we shall suggest certain burning issues for the Council of Ministers to discuss... Incidentally, we are aware of the danger of getting bogged down in trivia. The desire to help each and every person is quite understandable; people do not come to us with unimportant matters. Nor can one rule out the quite definite hope of burying Yeltsin as a political figure in these trivia. But still the main thing is to develop and follow a general strategic line in construction—for legislation and control.

[Domnysheva] You speak about control functions, but they require a certain amount of authority without which they will do no good. Has the committee been granted this?

[Yeltsin] So far all we can do is raise questions of execution of the committee's decisions at the meeting of the Supreme Soviet; the provisions concerning committees and commissions are extremely necessary in order for us to have specific authority.

[Domnysheva] Have these not been developed yet?

[Yeltsin] No, unfortunately. In principle we know what should be done but it would be much better if there were provisions... But today we have taken everything on ourselves.

[Domnysheva] Such a situation gives one, on the one hand, a right to be creative but, on the other, this same creativity can always be declared beyond one's area of competence... Did you select the members of the committee yourself?

[Yeltsin] No, the lists were prepared by the apparatus of the presidium, which suggested 42 deputies.

[Domnysheva] Did the proposed candidates suit you?

[Yeltsin] Not entirely. The committee needs, say, economists but not a single one was suggested for us. There are also very few architects. We have augmented the list with several specialists. After all, we shall be solving difficult problems. And one of the main ones is the development of a new investment polity and its implementation. Another responsible task is the approval of the cadres for the construction complex and that was included in the Council of Ministers.

[Domnysheva] If you have the ministers in mind, does the committee have the right to reject a proposed candidate and replace him with its own?

[Yeltsin] It can reject them but it cannot suggest an alternative. In the event of a rejection, the chairman of the Council of Ministers nominates someone else. I do not rule out this situation because it is quite difficult to get through the testing. I would like very much for the ministers to understand that times have changed and the soviets have the main power now.

I had hoped that the final breakthrough would take place at the Congress of People's Deputies. The party is a part of our society and perhaps even the best part, but it is still just a party. But the soviets include representatives of all the people. Lenin's words to the effect that soviet power is higher than that of the party should be both assimilated and used as a basis. Alas. The congress has not made radical decisions regarding many issues on which it is very important to take a stand. Even the status of people's deputies was not determined beforehand, not to mention the less important and simpler things. Unsatisfactory preparation for the congress has eaten up a great deal of our valuable work time and forced us to work in a muddle and discuss important issues in haste. And the same thing is continuing now: Up to this point premises have not been prepared even though several ministries have been abolished and all this could have been done long ago.

[Domnysheva] Several years ago there appeared a program under the slogan: "A separate apartment or house for every family by the year 1990..."

[Yeltsin] This is hanging heavy over our heads. First we shall get rid of the slogan and then we shall begin to deal with it. This is based on the idea that we have already built communism and completed the Food Program... When they undertook those calculations they invited demographers and sociologists, compared and manipulated data concerning the birth rate, the death rate, and the decline of families, and conducted both a comprehensive accounting for the demographic situation and an analysis of the situation in the construction branch, and it was revealed that the program Housing-2000 would look approximately the same as the proclaimed construction of the "base of communism" by the year 1980.

But nonetheless the figures for the 13th and 14th 5-year plans have already been determined. These figures are convenient for somebody. Until we can learn to look the truth straight in the eye and evaluate the situation realistically, regardless of how difficult it may be, we shall not be able to deal with it. The situation is exacerbated also by the fact that the inexpensive five-story buildings that at one time saved the country from the most severe housing crisis are simply unacceptable today. We intend not to develop large-panel construction and build skyscrapers but to build houses out of cellular concrete, which is now recognized as one of the best construction materials, and thus reduce the number of stories. The closer man is to the ground, the better. We must strive to fulfill the social order of the present day. And this means, above all, quality and the modern level of specifications.

[Domnysheva] But it is the architects, who form the modern level of specifications, who are always getting into conflicts with the builders—and the latter are not able to improve quality. And all this takes money.

[Yeltsin] And it can be found. Just a reduction of 30-40 percent of the investments in industrial construction can solve the problem. The capacities of industrial enterprises should not be developed by building the size of a football field; the more advantageous path is to improve the technology and equipment. Unfortunately, the congress documents include not the figure of 30-40 percent but only 15-20 percent. It seems that the idea has been accepted, but what kind of development of the social sphere can there be with this kind of approach? And if we said in our message to the peoples of the world that man is at the center of our attention, then we should concentrate most of our attention on his needs. It was recognized at the congress that the housing problem was the most crucial one in the country. There is a program whose implementation can provide success through measured but resolute actions. I am not in favor of half-measures, they cannot lead to positive results. But our situation is very serious.

[Domnysheva] Besides the function of certification of ministers, what else falls in the sphere of your immediate influence?

[Yeltsin] The committee will receive from the Council of Ministers large projects, which we shall discuss and determine whether there is any point in financing the project or not. Everything will depend on the expediency and significance of the object. The committee is a political organ and should formulate the investment policy. And it should be clearly oriented toward the social sphere. This is the main thing we have to do.

[Domnysheva] Boris Nikolayevich, many people are now speaking about the idea that we should sell housing and some people see this as the way out of our crisis. Government decisions are already being prepared...

[Yeltsin] I consider it unacceptable today to pump money out of people in this way. The majority of the people are too poor for actions like this. At the same time I think that those who are able to purchase their own apartments should not be restricted; they have a right to what they want and can afford.

[Domnysheva] The committee has gone to work. How do you evaluate its first 10 days of work?

[Yeltsin] It is difficult to be specific. Everything starts from the beginning. Since there are no provisions on committees, we have decided not to wait but to make our own decisions. We have created subcommittees and distributed functions and duties among the deputies. We have considered in the committee nine candidacies for post of ministers.

[Domnysheva] Boris Nikolayevich invited me to attend the committee meeting where they discussed candidates running for ministry posts.

In a small, stuffy hall in the building of the Supreme Soviet on Kalinin Prospekt members of the committee sat crowded next to one another.

People running for ministry posts had come here for the first time, and this was the first chance the people's deputies had to deal with such an usual matter as their certification. On the morning of 20 June they were to evaluate V. Brezhnev (Ministry of Transport Construction), A. Mikhalchenko (Ministry of Assembly and Special Construction Work), and V. Chirskov (Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises).

The people's deputies arrived not only with a clearcut position, but also with a clearly expressed desire to change the situation in construction, and there were questions beginning with purely economic ones—how has profitability increased in the ministries recently and as a result of what—to descriptions of the psychological climate in the ministries.

Of course V. Brezhnev could not escape questions about his distinguished relatives and his awards since they were included in the questionnaire as far back as Dzerzhinsk. It turned out that he did not have so many awards and had no Lenin or State prizes at all: Strange as it may be, he has the same name but his relationship is through his wife and sister. Taking into account that in the eyes of the people this fact is just as negative today as it was positive for certain people until quite recently, Brezhnev's situation is complicated. The thought crossed one's mind that this fact could become the dominant one, and in spite of his demonstrated competence, his mastery of the figures, and his intelligent assessment of the situation in the construction branch, he would not be allowed to be the minister: As always, the questionnaire would win out. By no means. Brezhnev passed.

And A. Mikhalchenko managed to put himself in a good light by visually demonstrating the products of his ministry and presenting his program.

The discussion was probably most heated that morning for V. Chirskov, in spite of his wealthy department. The people had many complaints about the ministry; about abandoned land and pastures; about a lack of attention to the needs and problems of the indigenous peoples of the north; about the quality of the work, which is leaving nature strewn with rubbish along the entire route; and about the senseless construction of cities in the uninhabitable zone. Disputes arose among the deputies as to whether Chirskov could be considered responsible for all the harm industrial civilization had caused to Siberia and the north, with the spirit of complete neglect of ecology that had reigned in all departments up to this point, which is apparent from the miniscule subsidies that are allotted for these purposes. Opinions were divided almost equally. Chirskov was recommended by a majority of one vote, under the condition that he submit to the committee a program for solving these and other problems within 2 days. It seemed that at first the "well-off" minister had simply underestimated his audience and than, rushing to the podium again, he honestly admitted:

"I was told in the Council of Ministers: Inform them—but I did not understand what I was supposed to say here."

Yes, they are all learning: both the deputies and the ministers. The former are learning to take responsibility for the fate of the country and the latter how to relate to the new status of the people's deputy.

Even Yeltsin was a pleasant surprise. Having heard about his hot temper at work, I expected to see severe pressure on the audience. No, everything was different: He had become less abrasive and more democratic in the Supreme Soviet.

The next day when I phoned the committee I learned that the chairman of the board of the USSR State Bank, V. Gribov, and Polad Polad-zade, minister of water management construction, had not passed the test.

[Domnysheva] Boris Nikolayevich! What is your prognosis. How will relations develop between the committee and the Supreme Soviet, which will be approving your recommendations.

[Yeltsin] I think everything will be most reasonable if it is all based on mutual respect. We have dealt with everything very thoroughly and there should be no pointless conflicts. They should occur in very rare cases when people do not agree with our opinion. World experience varies in this respect. For example, a candidacy that has not been approved by the American congress is usually eliminated from the competition and in rare cases only intervention of the head of state can change the commission's decision. With respect to everything else, we shall see...

Letter Criticizes Glasnost, Restructuring

18001303 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 Jun 89 p 11

[Article by I. Gruber, veteran of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs and member of the Union to Save Socialism, Angarsk: "Punish, Punish, and Punish..."]

[Text] Dear Citizen Liberals!

I want to tell you something about the calamity that has overcome the country; that is, the so-called restructuring, glasnost, and democratization. There is a decline in discipline, disintegration, and disorder everywhere. The Union is falling to pieces—see what the liberal lisping has brought us to.

No, we now need, like a breath of air, the highest discipline first and foremost. We are following another path of development, not like the one of West European countries and North America. We are not ready to live with too much freedom—especially the peoples of the southern republics. Some of them have become virtually ungovernable, submerged in anarchy and chaos. This could have been avoided if it were not for "glasnost," which legitimized all of these meetings, unsanctioned mobs, and other outrages. Instead of opportunely arresting several dozen extremists and sending them off to the cooler, we will now have to resettle tens of thousands of "fiery fellows" in Kazakhstan or Siberia. Without this, there is no quieting down...

Our country became a great power only due to the very highest discipline. Now depravity and degradation are being hauled into our country from foreign countries and we are embracing them with joy. The West is now supplying us not only its obsolete technology, but also its ideology of degradation in the form of hairy "apes" wriggling in front of the viewers naked. And our idiots are even happily trying to imitate all of this crap and are ready to outdo all of this gobbledegook. Youths are imitating them and losing faith in everything.

Drug addicts, prostitutes, chronic alcoholics, and, especially, homosexuals can be called people by stretching a point, perhaps if you have in mind that they are bipeds. But this is not the main attribute.

And so AIDS does not spread over the whole country, it is necessary to isolate immediately these so-called "high-risk groups" from society in special camps. Barbed wire and Siberian frosts are the best medicine for them. If this is not done today, tomorrow, perhaps, we will perish without a nuclear war.

Now the mass media is sounding off about our lagging behind the Western countries. In what? In standard of living? Let them have it; let them live better. Is ownership of a car, a country place, or a VCR the main thing in life? If you have shoes, clothes and are fed, what else is needed?

The main thing is a high defensive capability. Do not spare anything for the armed forces, and at the same time put things in order there and establish the highest possible discipline—for infractions of regulations punish, punish, and punish. At the same time, it is necessary to raise the living standards of officers.

Do not think, Messrs Pacifists, that all of America is in rapture over our restructuring and glasnost...

Now, when our society and state are undergoing an unprecedented crisis, only harsh, all-round discipline can save us. Of course, no one will listen to me—it is not the right wavelength now—and society will have to pay dearly for this "glasnost."

Of course, you will not print my letter, nothwithstanding your "glasnost." But we will soon have our own press. And we will defend the trampled ideals of socialism!

Gorbachev Attends Moscow Cahrity Concert

LD0207211989 Moscow TASS in English
2102 GMT 2 Jul 89

[Excerpts] Moscow July 3 TASS—Outstanding American pianist Van Cliburn gave a concert on June 2 [month as received] in the Tchaikovskiy Hall in Moscow, the city where 31 years ago he won the first Tchaikovskiy competition. The proceeds from the concert will go to the construction of a monument to Great Russian composer Pyotr Tchaikovskiy in Leningrad. [passage omitted]

Present at the concert which was a great success were Mikhail Gorbachev and Raisa Gorbachev.

Lukyanov Speaks at Lawyers Conference

18001304 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA
in Russian 28 Jun 89 p 2

[Article by V. Cherkesov: "On the Path Toward Rule-of-Law State"]

[Text] A new social organization, the USSR Union of Lawyers, has been created. The fact that we need such a union was discussed as early as the 1920's. However, decades passed before the Union of Lawyers materialized. During these years, our people have weathered various ordeals. One of the main ones was the trial by the absence of law: Repressions of the 1930's through the 1950's, the "economic trials" and rooting out so-called dissidents in the 1970's and the early 1980's—this is what the embodiment of this trial was. This is why the rule-of-law state and mass legal awareness are a vital necessity rather than a whim.

Reports in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA and other publications on the fate of innocent people destroyed by the court-and-investigation apparatus and on the inability of the current law enforcement system to combat crime and protect the rights of citizens efficiently bear testimony to this.

All of this was mentioned at the congress in the report by USSR Deputy Minister of Justice M.P. Vyshinskiy and the speeches of those taking the floor.

It was stressed at the congress that socialist civic society also amounts to the entirety of nonstate, nongovernment structures and relations. These structures are called upon not only to cooperate with the state, but also to monitor its activities, and, if necessary, embark on an argument with the state, including the statement of a categorical "no!" In this sense, it is not only lawyers, and not mostly lawyers, who need the Union of Lawyers, but all of society.

After a temperamental debate, a resolution and a charter were adopted. The latter establishes that the Union of Lawyers consists of individual and collective members. They argued about the main issue as well: Is such a union needed? Ya. S. Muyzhnieks, member of the Collegium of the Latvian Society of Lawyers and member of the Supreme Court of the republic, proposed to set up an association of unions of lawyers of union republics endowed with equal rights. After all, unions of lawyers have already been created in the Baltic Area and Georgia. This association could incorporate the recently created Union of Attorneys of USSR.

Acute issues of improving the process of instruction in law colleges, improvement of the financial situation of lawyers, and, paradoxical as it is, legal protection for them were also raised in the speeches of candidates.

A.I. Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Court, spoke to the delegates of the congress. He called on the lawyers to rally all the healthy forces of society and develop greater independence in the field, stressing that local self-management was inconceivable without lawyers.

Andrey Adamovich Trebkov, councilor of the CPSU Central Committee State and Legal Department, was elected chairman of the USSR Union of Lawyers.

The Union of Lawyers may also promote the nomination of representatives of the legal community as deputies of local and state power organs. At present, there are only 62 lawyers among the people's deputies, or slightly more than 2 percent, whereas in developed countries these percentage is many times higher.

May the work of the newly created union be fruitful!

Vorotnikov Visits Chelyabinsk Farm, Combine

LD0107223389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 1 Jul 89

[Text] Vorotnikov, chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium, who has been in Chelyabinsk Oblast, today met the party and local soviet aktiv. He dwelled on the results of the first Congress of People's Deputies and also set forth a number of proposals and comments on improving the work of local soviet and economic bodies in the oblast and enhancing the role of party committees. He answered numerous questions from those taking part in the meeting.

Comrade Vorotnikov made a trip to the (Muselmovskiy sovkhoz) and visited the production shops of the Chelyabinsk electrometallurgical combine.

Vitaliy Ivanovich left for Moscow today.

Zaykov Attends Moscow Talks on War Museum

LD0107150789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Jul 89

[Excerpts] There is great anxiety among all Muscovites and the broad public of the country over the progress of the construction of the complex on Poklonnaya Gora to commemorate victory in the Great Patriotic War. The third peacetime generation is already growing up, yet the capital is still without a worthy image and symbol of the great victory. [passage omitted]

It is possible that today, the artistic and architectural form of the whole composition might have been different, but to redo the whole thing would mean wasting the people's money. Just the necessary corrections should be made to what has been created. Questions of expediting the construction of the central museum of the Great Patriotic War and the creation of amenities in the park and adjacent land were examined on the site on 30 June by Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Moscow City Committee of the CPSU. Taking part in the discussion were senior officials of the USSR Ministry of Culture, of the USSR Academy of Arts, of the ispolkom of the Moscow City Soviet Executive Committee, of the Moscow Construction Committee, and representatives of the public, including the Moscow City Council of War Veterans.

All those who participated in the discussion were unanimously of the opinion that there is every prospect of completing the work by 1992. It was proposed that plans for the functional use of the museum's many galleries and rooms be submitted for public discussion.

Zaykov Addresses Plant Collective 15 Jun

PM0307132589 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jun 89 p 1

[MOSTASS correspondent B. Shestakov report: "At the New Phase of Restructuring"]

[Excerpts] The results of the first Congress of USSR People's Deputies and the tasks of the new phase of restructuring were at the center of attention at a 15 June meeting between L.N. Zaykov, USSR people's deputy, member of the Politburo, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and first secretary of Moscow CPSU City Committee [gorkom], with the labor collective of the No. 1 State Ball Bearing Plant ["GPZ-1"] Production Association.

He visited a number of shops in this renowned enterprise—one of the flagships of the capital's industry. This year the association will produce over 125 million bearings in two thousand standard sizes, bearings that are vitally important for our domestic industry and that also enjoy high demand in many countries of the world. [passage omitted]

While looking around the shops, L.N. Zaykov had relaxed, businesslike conversations with workers and specialists on all sorts of subjects. They mainly talked about how to give back to the working people their sense of ownership, and how to speed up the solution of pressing problems that have arisen in society and in the economy. The Moscow workers talked with concern about the still unsatisfactory rates of social development in Taganskiy Rayon and the capital as a whole. The primary reason for this is the inflexibility of some soviet and economic leaders and the lack of due demands on the part of party organs.

The necessity to pay more attention to ensure social justice and remove previous distortions in the development of the cooperative movement was stressed.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary was highly appreciative of the work of the plant's workers, and he noted the cohesion and positive attitude of the Communists and the whole collective. He expressed confidence that the working people of "GPZ-1" would continue to pursue an active creative quest. At the same time, many enterprise issues can be solved even today by their own efforts.

A meeting with representatives of the plant collective was a unique sort of continuation of these conversations.

The final assessments of the First Congress of USSR People's Deputies are still to be made, L.N. Zaykov told those assembled. Its very rich material demands serious study. But already today it can be said with confidence that the Congress led our society into a new phase in the development of socialist democracy and glasnost. It can be related to the most important events in the history of the state. This is a turning point in the country's political, social, and spiritual development. And it is the real, tangible result of restructuring itself.

In his report M.S. Gorbachev thoroughly analyzed the restructuring processes—without underestimating what has been done but also without keeping quiet about the practical difficulties we have encountered.

The report was a very rich basis for frank and constructive reflections on the future of the country. It was felt that the people's deputies were very concerned about the problems that have accumulated, and they all displayed anxiety about how to lead the country out of the hole it is in. And it was very important that the Congress was based on realistic assessments of our potential and on the understanding that the state can only live off the means earned by our common labor.

The political and economic programs proposed to the Congress are geared to the maximum to the individual. Of course, they will not make lightning changes in all spheres of life. Restructuring is a labor-intensive and long-term job. Now it is important to determine what primarily to concentrate efforts on and how to resolve the most painful problems in the shortest time.

Thorough changes in the economic and social spheres are of key significance. They primarily concern such questions as supplying people with provisions, accommodation, and services, health protection, nature conservation, and improving education, science, and culture.

L.N. Zaykov then concentrated on some of the indicators of the development of Moscow's economy in the current 5-year plan. The growth in the volume of production in the 3 years, he announced, was 13.2 percent compared with the planned 9.3 percent. This was achieved through increased labor productivity. The number of working people in the physical production sphere was reduced by 30,000, which meant that it has been possible to increase the number of workers in the social sphere.

In 1986-1988, 9.6 million square meters of accommodation, 167 children's preschool institutions, 99 general education schools, 23 hospitals, and 43 polyclinics were built, and 175,000 square meters of shops and catering establishments for 86,000 people were opened. A total of 14.2 km of metro line was commissioned. Some 825,000 people, or 357,000 Moscow families, improved their living conditions.

And yet people are still very dissatisfied with what has been achieved. And the people's deputies brought this dissatisfaction with them to the Congress. They talked more frankly than ever before about shortages, negligence, and our misfortunes. The main problem at present is of course the imbalance of the market. This is, in practice, bringing to naught the incipient positive changes in the economy and the social sphere. The problem has taken on a political character. That is why the task of increasing the production of goods and services is so urgent—to ensure the preferential growth of commodity stocks in relation to monetary income. Effective measures are also necessary to improve the socialist market.

The program presented to the Congress outlines the most determined measures to improve financial health and regulate the country's circulation of money. Fulfilling the Central Committee March Plenum's resolution on questions of agrarian policies and the food problem was singled out as a task of utmost importance.

At the council of deputies other priorities regarding social policy for the current period, including the question of raising the standard of living among the poorer sections of the population, were also submitted. Specific decisions improving the living conditions of pensioners and invalids were directly made at the Congress.

L.N. Zaykov explained in detail what the Moscow program "Progress-95" envisages in the sphere of environmental protection. The state would not, he noted, make this an economic issue.

The Congress, the speaker continued, confirmed the political directive of the 27th party congress to ensure that every family has its own accommodations by the year 2000. The task is an extremely complex one even in Moscow, although we have the greatest construction potential in the country at our disposal. In the remaining period we must build 48 million square meters of living area. However, if the work is properly organized, this complex task is feasible. We will also persistently take the course of strictly observing the principle of social justice in the distribution of accommodation. L.N. Zaykov once again called on the "GPZ-1" collective to meet up to their possibilities of resolving the accommodation problem by 1995.

The very atmosphere at the Congress of USSR People's Deputies convincingly showed that the broadly developing democratization of the country's state and social life is an important achievement of restructuring. The delimitation of the functions of party and state organs is being persistently pursued. The historic slogan "Power to the Soviets!" is being realized in all its fullness.

Criticism of the party could also be heard at the Congress. The deputies correctly noted that restructuring in many party committees was falling behind the democratization of society. But we cannot agree with attempts to belittle the party's role—which incidentally did not receive support at the Congress.

As the initiator and main driving force of restructuring, the Communist Party today is the guarantor of revolutionary transformations and the integrating force without which the renewal of socialism could not be brought to a successful conclusion. Both the party itself and its role in society are changing in restructuring on deeply democratic foundations. For the CPSU there is nothing more important than the interests of the people and ensuring consolidation in the actions of all elements of the political system. The party is ready to collaborate with social organizations and movements in the restructuring and renewal of our life. The basic guidelines of the city party organization's activity in the current phase of restructuring and measures to increase its authority will be dealt with at the upcoming Moscow CPSU Gorkom plenum.

The central question of the second phase of the political reform is the formation of a new structure of local organs of power and administration. The results and lessons of the past electoral campaign must be born in mind.

In the context of the subjects discussed at the Congress, the question of the present state of discipline and order stands out. Drastic changes for the better are necessary here. The low level of discipline and poor fulfillment of service duties brings great losses, both economic and moral, to all of us. It must be firmly stated that without discipline and order there is no restructuring either.

Democratization and glasnost have aroused unprecedented social activeness on the part of the people. And this is a good thing. But, unfortunately, antisocial elements have also been stirred up. Their activities must be opposed not just by reasonable arguments, appeals, and public opinion but also by the force of the law.

Almost the sharpest debate at the Congress was that on the nationality question. All the complexity and acuteness of interethnic relations can also be felt in Moscow. This stems from the special status of the capital city, which people from all corners of the country head for, and the fact that Moscow itself is multiethnic. We bear this in mind in our work. The first steps to fulfill the Muscovites' national cultural demands have been taken. We are trying to make this work comprehensive, to make sensible use of various forms of patriotic and international education in labor collectives and places of residence, and speed up the formation of cultural centers of the union republics and the socialist countries.

The formation of a delicate instrument, sensitive to people's moods and expectations, to regulate our internal interethnic demands is connected with the developing practice of the new political thinking in the state's international activity.

The Congress that has taken place, the speaker stressed, uncovered the inexhaustible reserves of socialism and a wealth of humanist ideas for the service of the individual. This is essentially the first, but maybe the most important, step toward restoring full power to the soviets. A great deal still remains to be done here.

And there is the confidence, the USSR people's deputy noted in conclusion, that the collective wit of the people has been able to formulate an effective program of Soviet state activity for the coming years and has given new energy to the whole process of the revolutionary renewal of our society. The working class was and still is the main support of the party and the fundamental strength of restructuring.

L.N. Zaykov answered many questions asked by the participants in the meeting.

Battle To Show Chernobyl Film Won

18001295 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 27 Jun 89 p 4

[Article by SOVETSKAYA KULTURA correspondent O. Gusev: "The Overcautious Have Retreated"]

[Text] "They Received it With Applause, But...Did Not Authorize it"—this is the title of an interview with Director of the A. Dovzhenko Cinema Studio N. Mashchenko on the difficult fate of the feature documentary movie "Threshold" (SOVETSKAYA KULTURA, 18 April 1989). Let us recall that the movie by Kiev director R. Sergiyenko devoted to the post-accident cleanup at Chernobyl was given a hostile reception by the experts of the Minatomenergo [Ministry of Atomic Power] and the Minzdrav [Ministry of Health]. No matter how hard the latter have tried to shield their ministries from the criticism voiced in the film, the voice of the public, protesting the narrow departmental approach to releasing the movie describing the reality of Chernobyl and the efforts of some individuals in executive positions to conceal the actual state of affairs at the station, has won out.

"The publication in SOVETSKAYA KULTURA also made a weighty contribution to the cause of defending glasnost, bolstering the right of an artist to his own opinion in evaluating the tragedy, even if it diverges from the narrow departmental approach," said USSR People's Deputy, First Secretary of the Board of the Union of Cinema Employees of the Ukraine M. Belikov.

"As we were informed by the USSR Goskino [State Committee for Cinematography], the printing of copies of the movie 'Threshold' had been authorized. The first prints of it will play in Kiev within days.

"The value of this small, but, in principle, important victory won by the public over the overcautious ones is high: This is first of all a defeat inflicted on inertness, go-by-the-book approach, and other ingrained anti-restructuring customs which are still present in certain places. The hope has emerged that subsequent movies about Chernobyl and its citizens which cinematographers of the Ukraine are working on will reach the audience freely.

"Personally, I am shooting crucial sequences for the feature movie 'Decay' at present. We are also preparing to work with the actors in Chernobyl and the villages of the closed 30-kilometer zone.

"I would admit that I still feel an internal 'censor' in myself who whispers: 'Maybe we should not shoot how, say, the children of 'highly-placed' elite were sent further away from Kiev in the first days following the accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station?' I try not to listen to him.

"Having come to Kiev after the Congress of People's Deputies, I faced a dilemma: whether to serve on the commissions of the Supreme Soviet or direct the movie? The issue was resolved in favor of the movie.... Besides, together with my colleagues, I have been designing the variants of a new model of the cinema industry for our republic, in which we have to create 'Ukrainian Film' Association with its releasing system, its own independent technical facilities, as well as the setting up of direct foreign contacts. I believe that this model will pave the way for many movies we could only dream about before, and not only on the topic of Chernobyl."

Article Details Psychiatric Abuse

18001312 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
29 Jun 89 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by V. Razboynikov of Ulyanov Oblast: "Instructions To Put Him Away"]

[Text] Yu. Sobolev, the former chief of a forestry station, as it was officially reported, recently escaped from the Zagarinskiy psychiatric hospital. He was forcibly committed there with the diagnosis: "Reactive psychosis, depressive-paranoidal syndrome." Everyone was calm about his disappearance from the hospital. Moreover, he was immediately hired as a machine tool operator. The reason for this calmness is simple: He had no "psychosis" or "syndrome."

The end of our conversation with the patient automatically became confused —he was hurrying off to work on the second shift. I offered him a ride to the wood processing plant. He accepted. But his wife, leaving the house ahead of us, wrote down the license number of the car in which her husband was leaving.

"She does that so she will know where to look for me if something happens," said Sobolev. "She has learned through bitter experience..."

They really do have experience. The first time they took him right from the timber felling area several years ago. Then these departures were repeated. And in the spring, when the election campaign began... Incidentally, here it is more appropriate to refer to documents. Here is what was written to me by the deputy chief of the Nikolayevskiy Rayon internal affairs division, militia Captain A. Loginov: "On 2 or 3 March (I do not recall now) I was called by the secretary of the Nikolayevskiy party raykom [rayon committee] V.A. Panasenko, who said that Sobolev at a pre-election meeting with a candidate people's deputy had put forth some bad idea. He said that Sobolev had to be put away. I called the psychiatrist V.F. Kamalov and explained the situation. He said he would send an order to the psychiatric hospital..."

And that was the end of the matter. Somebody called the Slavkino village ispolkom [executive committee] and asked Sobolev to come there. They said it had something to do with job placement. When Sobolev appeared at the designated place, there was a vehicle from the psychiatric hospital with a red stripe waiting for him. That is where he understood what was what...

What were the rayon authorities afraid of when they took this criminal step? The answer, strange as it may seem, is in the order signed by Kamalov: "...He started acting suspiciously, putting forth extremist ideas about changing power, he intends to stage a revolution, he is writing to all the levels of authority..."

But there was every justification for him to write. Sobolev presented the essence of his wrathful indignation, written and oral, extremely succinctly:

"First they tried to make me a criminal and then a psychiatric patient. After all, I spent 494 days there against my will."

He wrote about all this to the local, republic, and central organs. The responses are typical bureaucratic nonsense. He wanted to relate this to the candidate people's deputy, the first secretary of the Ulyanov party obkom [oblast committee] Yu.G. Samsonov and, indirectly, to the voters. But it seems that the rayon authorities were protecting the candidate and themselves—so that the meeting would proceed quietly, with only the traditional applause.

I do not know whether Sobolev was correctly accused in the judicial meeting or what justification there was for keeping him in the psychiatric hospital. I shall only say that he did not see the charges and he was not present in court. But I read, for example, the response from the oblast procurator that was sent to Sobolev: "You have been found guilty of committing theft...through abuse of your work position. Your guilt has been established by testimony from witnesses..." A list of names followed. I do not need to cast doubt on the extremely difficult work of the lawyers. I just met with certain witnesses to whom the procurator had referred. In court they had said something quite the opposite. The people with whom I spoke had left the corresponding entries in the reporter's notes.

But let us return to our patient. When he was delivered to the hospital he said that he was not preparing any extremist plans or revolutions and that the guilty parties would be punished. They laughed at him in response. The next day the doctor spoke with him. He wanted to know what the patient was complaining of. Sobolev answered: his teeth. The first meeting ended there. Then in professionally illegible handwriting the medical workers did their job: "Yu.I. Sobolev does not consider himself mentally ill. He blames the doctor who committed him to the hospital. He says with agitation that there is no justice but the procurators and the judge are defending the honor of the uniform. He thinks that the doctors of the 'punitive organ' are not guilty, they are just following orders..."

As though seconding these words of an author I did not know, Kamalov let drop:

"But what do you do if you are given an order."

Now he admits that he sent to a psychiatric hospital for compulsory therapy a person who was not registered and whom he had never laid eyes on. He concealed him in violation of the provisions "On the Conditions and Procedure for Rendering Psychiatric Aid." It seems that these facts go beyond professional mistakes. When I telephoned the chief of the oblast health department of the Ulyanov oblispolkom, V. Yaroslavtsev, and told him this story, he asked the question I expected:

"Do you think that any sane person, the more so a physician, would do such a thing without orders from above?"

I did not answer but simply read the letter from the deputy chief of the rayon internal affairs division: "They telephoned me and ordered him put away. I followed the order."

This story has now disturbed more than just the Nikolayevskiy Rayon internal affairs division. There will be an investigation. Their ways are inscrutable. Only one thing causes misgivings: Will they name the initiator of all these criminal cases? So far in all the references and documents I have seen they have been too embarrassed to give the names of the leaders.

...We left Slavkino, but Sobolev's wife busily wrote down the license number of the correspondent's car. I wanted to calm her down: They say that will never happen again. Although who knows; we have another pre-election campaign ahead of us....

Economic

Official Notes Ongoing Effects of Pipeline Blast

LD1307085889 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Tension has not subsided yet in the work of the joint control administration for the mainline gas pipelines system of the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry's oil transport board. Correspondent Yuriy Ryurkin met (Ivan Andreyevich Matlashev), the chief of this board. Listen to the recording of their discussion:

[Begin recording] [Ryurkin] The consequence of the explosion that occurred in Bashkiriya as a result of the leak of liquefied gas are well known to all of us. This is the so-called direct damage, but there also exists some indirect damage. Many rayons of the Ukrainine, the Tatar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, and Kuybyshev Oblast were left without gas. (Ivan Andreyevich), what is the present situation with the supply of gas to the population of these rayons.

[(Matlashev]) A very complex situation has arisen to this day with the provision of hydrocarbonous raw material for our country's national economy, in this case with broad fraction of light hydrocarbons. The situation at this time is as follows: The oil products pipeline was shut down after the accident at the Tobolsk- Minnibayevo section. If one is to speak about figures, then the output and the distribution to the consumers has been reduced by 50 percent. In this situation, at the instruction of the USSR Council of Ministers on urgent conduct of repair and renovation works of prime importance at the West Siberia-Ural-Povolzhye oil product pipelines, an operational headquarters was set up which included representatives of the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, and the Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises. They are tackling questions related with putting the oil products pipeline back in operation. This work is connected, first and foremost, with the repair of the defects that were discovered during inspection, there also are works connected with adopting complex measures aimed at raising the reliability of oil products pipelines in the areas of dangerous proximity. These are works connected with the reconstruction of underwater crossings, with the installation of the means of television control, automation, diagnostics, and also with the change of technology.

[Ryurkin] (Ivan Andreyevich), tell us please—so that it will be clear to those who now find themselves in this critical situation, without gas—when in realistic terms is it possible to expect the stabilization of gas supply to these rayons?

[(Matlashov]) This is a difficult question because in this respect there exist many conditions. Our own funds, which we have at our disposal today, do not make it possible to say today unanimously that yes, a guarantee can be given that this oil products pipeline is safe at a given section. Since we cannot say that, it is still very difficult to make this decision. I think that completely meeting consumers' demands for petrochemical products, for domestic gas and products used to make synthetic rubber, as well as for liquid hydrocarbons cannot be resolved by November. If the measures of prime importance for West Siberia are fulfilled, the petrochemical enterprises will be provided with 90 percent of their needed raw material sometime in September.

The export of these products has been practically halted. Measures were adopted for increasing the production of these liquid hydrocarbons in the rayons in the center of the country. Therefore, the demands of the population, in particular, will most likely be met in the end of September.

[Ryurkin] The domestic (?needs)?

[(Matlashov)] In this respect, the question of rubber production is the most acute. This question is very serious, indeed. It leads to great reduction of the production of vehicle tires. This need not be concealed. The main task set for today is to put back in operation those sections of oil pipelines from Western Siberia and the main section of the oil pipeline at which the accident occurred from the zero kilometer mark via Yuzhnyy Balyk to Tobolsk. It is possible that questions concerning building new sections in this direction will arise. Therefore, these works may stretch into December and perhaps even to 1990. [end recording]

New Economy Committee Chief Interviewed

PM1307103489 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with V.M. Vologzhin, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Economic Reform Questions, by V. Romanyuk under the rubric "At the USSR Supreme Soviet": "There Is No Such Thing as an Owner Without Rights"—date, place of interview not stated; first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] During the confirmation of Valentin Mikhaylovich Vologzhin, general director of the Lvov "Konveyer" Production Association, in the high post of chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Economic Reform Questions, it was noted that he is known not only for his views, which are oriented toward the implementation of radical reform, but also for the practical implementation of advanced ideas.

The committee chairman's track record is brief: He graduated from the Siberian Metallurgical Institute in Novokuznetsk, and worked for some 15 years at "Krasmash," where his last post was as chief of the complex's planning and economic service; he moved to Lvov, where he worked at the bus plant, and then, for the last 8 years, as general director of the "Konveyer" Production Association. The committee chairman is 52.

[Romanyuk] Valentin Mikhaylovich, when the teleprinter brought the first reports from Lvov on the issuing of shares in the labor collective, it caused a sensation. At that time the prospects for the development of a shareholding economy in our country were perceived only dimly. And suddenly—it was being put into practice! How did you manage to achieve the breakthrough in this complex matter?

[Vologzhin] I have been interested in questions of ownership for a long time. I even wrote a dissertation on the problems of the development of a shareholding economy under socialism. But when the 1965 reform petered out and failed to produce a solution, all this had to be set aside. In 1983 new experiments began, and in 1986 we formulated the model for a state joint-stock socialist enterprise, making use—in relation to our own conditions—of the experience of a whole range of countries. The model came into operation on 1 January1988. People became real co-owners of property. The model is constructed in this way: The higher a person's qualifications and the longer and better he has been working at an enterprise, the more he owns. The property remains his even when he retires. What are the dividends like? Last year they amounted to 20 percent of the share capital [20 protsentov godovykh na aktsionernyy kapital], which is now in excess of R2 million.

[Romanyuk] And were the workers very willing to "shell out" when it was proposed that they acquire shares?

[Vologzhin] It was not quite like that. At first we obtained R1 million in credit from the bank, turned it into shares, and handed them out to the workers. I emphasize: handed them out. We are settling up with the bank from the income on the capital. People immediately perceived their personal interest in the development of production. And now they themselves are investing their personal savings, that is very important. True, the USSR Council of Ministers resolution then came out on the issuing of shares at enterprises, and it contains a number of restrictions that fetter the shareholding economy. I expect that in my work on the Committee for Economic Reform Questions I will be able to work for the removal of these restrictions.

[Romanyuk] And do you yourself own shares in "Konveyer"?

[Vologzhin] Naturally.

[Romanyuk] For what sum?

[Vologzhin] That is a commercial secret. I can only show you what the shares look like. Here, you see: the "reds" are issued on income, and the "greens" for hard cash. There is only one condition: No worker can have shares totaling more than R10,000. I say this as chairman of the shareholders' council of the "Konveyer" Association—I was asked to retain this elected post. But I will have to leave my post as director—I cannot lead the Committee for Economic Reform Questions as a matter of "routine."

[Romanyuk] What do you consider the most important aspect of the committee's activity?

[Vologzhin] You heard how I began the first session. I suggested that everyone formulate our main tasks in the course of the week. After all, the committee did not exist before—so there is no accumulated experience. Nonetheless some people's deputies viewed this proposal with displeasure. They were expecting to receive a readymade program, prepared by goodness knows whom. You see, the ingrained stereotypes have their effect! But now there is, basically, no one above us—we ourselves must decide.

I believe the key question is that of the right to ownership of state property. At the moment there is no owner, and it is felt provisionally that the ministry is the owner. But you can see for yourselves how ministries are merged or abolished, and no one says anything about their property. The owner is the one who actually uses the property, the output produced, and the income obtained.

And in what sense do the ministries use them? Ministerial workers have no interest in profitability and bear no responsibility for losses.

[Romanyuk] But all the same, the talk at the Congress was mainly of how to feed the country, give people housing, and fill the market with goods.

[Vologzhin] Unless we resolve the question of ownership, we will inevitably find that everything else marks time. We adhered for too long to the dogma of the supremacy of state interests over personal interests, pushing the working person into the background. But the state cannot be rich if its citizens are poor. Everyone seems to be working hard, yet the results are not in evidence. Because man "is the master of his boundless Motherland" only in the well-known song.

I listened with great satisfaction to M.S. Gorbachev's concluding address at the Congress of People's Deputies, especially when he said that "we need a perestroyka in which the individual and the labor collective are genuinely placed in the position of the master of production, with all the ensuing profound and serious consequences." My personal position is this: The right of ownership must be of unlimited duration—until the moment of destruction. After which the state has the right to hand it over to another owner. A lease contract is concluded by an enterprise with the local soviet and the contract is approved by the republic Supreme Soviet. In this way no ministry, with its monopolism, can touch the labor collective.

But even the lease system, with all its pluses, does not give a full sense of ownership. We at "Konveyer" have taken the fixed capital on lease and found the optimum form of combining lease relations with a shareholding economy. We have kept the shareholding section, which, we hope, will be equivalent to around 30 percent of the value of the fixed capital in 20 years or so. The question of buying all the fixed capital from the state will probably arise in future. We have drawn a good deal from the experience of West of the West European countries, particularly the practice of creating people's enterprises, and we have taken some things from Hungary. I do not see anything to be ashamed of in borrowing something useful from the West.

But I want to finish my thought: If we create ownership relations on a sound footing, it will be possible consistently to resolve all the other questions—regional economic accountability, the creation of a market, convertibility of the ruble...

[Romanyuk] Rationally minded deputies have just put forward this idea—to submit to the USSR Supreme Soviet for wide publication economic models that have won a good reputation, including your Lvov model. What is your attitude to this idea?

[Vologzhin] "Konveyer" has 300 followers in the country. There is much of interest in the experience of the Moscow concern "Kvantemp," headed by Yu. Skokov, and S. Fedorov's Center for Microsurgery of the Eye. Incidentally, both of them will be on the committee. I am not against publishing the best experience, but first it is necessary to examine all the options, assess them—from the practical and scientific viewpoints—and choose what is really the best.

[Romanyuk] In the view of a number of prominent economists, a concept for economic reform was not formulated at the Congress of People's Deputies. Nor did certain radical proposals meet with support. For instance, that of A. Chabanov, general director of the "Rotor" Science and Production Association, that accounting based on volume indicators—gross output—be abolished from 1 July 1989.

[Vologzhin] I am a decisive man, but at the same time I am in favor of well-considered decisions. On our committee we agreed to draw up a "tree of targets," which will enable us to carry out legislative activity more purposefully. There are many braking factors in the economy, and after examining its structure carefully, we should consistently remove all these obstacles. Much patience and persistence will be needed. Yes, decisions must be taken quickly, but they must be taken with the utmost skill—within the time available.

[Romanyuk] How fruitful, in your view, was the committee's first session?

[Vologzhin] Many positions and approaches to the problems to be resolved were put forward. The outcome of our work will probably be substantial proposals on draft laws and careful, expert assessments of new draft laws. Sometimes people want to move quickly, to get results by tomorrow. But it does not work out that way.

[Romanyuk] Valentin Mikhaylovich, will your family be moving to Moscow?

[Vologzhin] Not all of them. My only daughter Elvira was married last Friday, and she will stay in Lvov. But my wife and I will make ourselves at home in the Hotel Moskva.

[Romanyuk] Are you satisfied with your first working day?

[Vologzhin] How can I put it... I went without lunch.

Scientific

'Cosmos-2030' Satellite Launched 5 Jul

LD1307072389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0630 GMT 13 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jul (TASS)—On Wednesday, the artificial earth satellite "Cosmos-2030" was launched by a "Soyuz" rocket carrier in the Soviet Union.

On board is apparatus intended for space research.

The satellite has been placed in an orbit with the following parameters: Initial period of revolution—89.7 mins; apogee—373 km; perigee—177 km; orbital inclination 67.2 deg.

Besides scientific apparatus, the satellite carries systems for the precise measurement of orbital elements and for transmitting to Earth data about the work of the instruments and scientific apparatus.

Nuclear Safety Aide Cited on June Incidents

PM1107145489 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jul 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed report on nuclear power station incidents in June, plus interview with V. Sidorenko, deputy chairman of USSR State Committee for Safety in the Atomic Power Industry, by unnamed IZVESTIYA correspondent: "Nuclear Power Stations: Incidents in June"—date, place of interview not stated]

[Text] IZVESTIYA continues to publish monthly reports on incidents at nuclear power stations [AES's], supplied by the USSR State Committee for Safety in the Atomic Power Industry.

[Incident report begins] There are 44 power units in operation in the USSR. Last month there were 19 unplanned stoppages and 11 unplanned reductions in capacity.

	Stoppages	Reductions in Capacity
Balakovo AES	5	3
Smolensk AES	4	1
Kursk AES	2	1
Rovno AES	2	3
Chernobyl AES	2	0
South Ukrainian AES	1	0
Zaporozhye AES	1	0
Beloyarsk AES	1	0
Bilibino AES	1	0
Kalinin AES	0	3

The stoppages took place for the following reasons: 11—human error; 5—failures in the control systems; 2—failures in the electricity supply; 1—a failure of heat engineering equipment.

At the Kursk AES local radioactive contamination took place on the AES territory because of negligence on the part of workers at the station.

In all the incidents noted, there were no cases where the limits set for normal operation were exceeded. There were no instances of overexposure of personnel to radiation. The radiation situation in the zones around the AES's is within normal limits. [incident report ends]

At the request of IZVESTIYA's correspondent, V. Sidorenko, first deputy chairman of the committee, comments on the summary of incidents.

[Correspondent] Viktor Alekseyevich, the sharp increase in the number of AES incidents in June compared with the figures for May is striking. How can this be explained?

[Sidorenko] An unequivocal answer cannot yet be given. Here is a preliminary assessment: Almost the entire increase in AES incidents last month was due to incorrect actions by workers at the stations. Among the stations, the Balakovo and Smolensk AES's showed an "upsurge." At the Smolensk station factors relating to the work of personnel are highlighted, while at Balakovo, the poor quality of the operation of control and automation systems is noted.

Our analysis shows that violations involving personnel fall into three groups that make approximately equal "contributions" to the undesirable incidents: poor quality maintenance and servicing work; unsatisfactory organization of collaboration between various services at an operating unit; and errors by operating personnel.

[Correspondent] Errors... One had hoped not to have to use this word again in connection with the atomic power industry after Chernobyl. So, is it negligence and incompetence again?

[Sidorenko] Yes, what happened can be explained not only in terms of poor discipline, but also in terms of professional skills. Or rather, the standard of those skills.

[Correspondent] Are you confident that it will be possible to achieve the necessary improvement in the quality of work by all specialists?

[Sidorenko] You cannot run the atomic power industry reliably without the most highly qualified cadres possible. The decision adopted on reorganizing the management of the sector is aimed at, among other things, ensuring this.

[Correspondent] The USSR State Committee for Safety in the Atomic Power Industry is charged with monitoring the professional standard of nuclear power station workers whose actions affect AES safety...

[Sidorenko] Yes, our inspectors on the spot belong to qualifications commissions that have the right to relieve of their duties workers who do not possess the necessary knowledge or do not undergo retraining when necessary. We recently approved a new edition of the "General Provisions for Ensuring Safety at Nuclear Power Stations," formulating today's level of demands on the quality and standard of AES operation. It is becoming compulsory for all AES's to be equipped with educational and training facilities.

[Correspondent] To conclude the interview, a few words about what happened at the Kursk AES, where radioactive contamination was recorded.

[Sidorenko] During maintenance work on 26 June at the closed-down fourth unit at the Kursk AES, there was a leak of slightly radioactive water into the internal premises of the bloc through a seal in one of the circulation pumps. Some of the water escaped from the building onto the AES territory. The next day, the soil was removed from the contaminated territory and taken to the waste store. The water from the premises was pumped out into the special disposal system. The premises were cleaned. Those who were to blame for what happened—the maintenance and operations personnel—were removed from future work and penalized materially.

Military

Conversion of Tanks to Traction Vehicles Reported

LD1207194889 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Jul 89

[Video report by correspondent S. Guryanov; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The withdrawal of units from the groups of Soviet troops stationed in foreign countries continues, including from the western group of troops.

[S. Guryanov] The reductions are proceeding strictly on schedule. These tanks have been brought here to a military works for conversion into machines suitable for use in the national economy. Within several hours they will cease to be armaments, and out of another set of gates there will emerge, for instance, a shiny freshly painted traction vehicle, which will be performing exclusively civilian jobs. All the work is financed by the USSR Defense Ministry. [video shows dozens of tanks, still with painted numbers, parked in a yard; tank driving into shed; tank turret being lifted off by a crane; mechanics with oxyacetylene torches and spanners working on chassis of tanks]

[Begin recording] [video shows Guryanov adressing uniformed man] [Guryanov] How much does it cost the Defense Ministry and the works to convert the tanks? What are the sums?

[G.V. Zadykhaylo, chief of the works—identified by caption] It depends what we convert the vehicle into. if we convert a tank into a traction vehicle suitable for use in the national economy, it will cost roughly R25,000. If a more complex vehicle is needed—for instance a multipurpose fire-engine, or a repair and evacuation vehicle—it costs somewhat more, up to R70,000. We have some orders, but they are sort of semiofficial. If there are any takers, they are most welcome.

[Guryanov] So people can apply to you. How?

[Zadykhaylo] There is a certain procedure for this in the army. There must obviously be a directive from our chief directorate specifying the basis on which we can, so to speak, conclude contracts with ministries that will require these vehicles. Then, representatives from the ministries are welcome to come over and tell us the specifications they want on their machines, and we can conclude a bilateral direct contract. [video shows Zadykhaylo being interviewed. converted tank with a spiked roller atttachment. vehicle squirting water. vehicle with crane-type attachment and bulldozer blade]

[Guryanov] A proportion of the combat vehicles subject to reductions will be destroyed. In other words they will be sent off to be melted down. [video shows lines of tanks in a field]

[G.F. Krivosheyev, deputy chief of the general staff of the USSR Armed Forces—identified by caption] Altogether, I take pride in these machines. Much of the work of the Soviet people has indeed been invested in these machines. In their time, they were among the best machines in the tank-building sphere. But it has to be said that we understand that the number of tanks in the Soviet Union is actually higher than in the united states and the west, and it has become necessary to destroy tanks, physically destroy them, to put it bluntly.

[Guryanov] How much does a T-10M tank cost?

[Krivosheyev] You know, the T-10—not the modernized M version—cost R87,000 when it was being produced in its initial version, in those prices. The modernized tank—that is, the T-10M—was around R100,000. [video shows Krivosheyev being interviewed, further shot of tanks in the field; there is a tank behind Krivosheyev, he turns round to face it] As for this machine, the T-64—in its various models, "a", "b", and so on—was about two-and-a-half times as expensive.

[Guryanov] The engines and the various assemblies and mechanisms will yet come in useful. But the armored bodies are now to be redesignated as scrap metal. [video shows large outdoor sign on a vertical post saying "scrap breaking yard"; a train laden with tanks edges its way past the camera]

[Yu.N. Borisov, director of the Yenakiyevo metallurgical works—identified by caption] From the combat machines, we get the most peaceful output. We obtain reinforcement iron for constructing residential houses and for building industrial enterprises. Things are very difficult in the country at the moment as far as scrap metal is concerned. And our works experienced major interruptions in the delivery of scrap metal last month. So that today it is a help to us. [video shows Borisov, in civilian clothes, interviewed in front of some tanks; shots of inside of foundry and outside of steel works] [end recording]

Yazov Notes Importance of Defense Readiness

LD1207090989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0756 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow, 12 Jul (TASS) - My main concern is to raise the defense capability of the country and maintain necessary and sufficient combat readiness of the Army by means of qualitiative indicators in equipping all types of troops, USSR Defense Minister Dmitriy Yazov stated in an interview with APN published in MOSCOW NEWS. It was precisely because we are unhappy with the existing state of affairs that we began restructuring in the Army. Add to that the problem of reducing numbers of personnel and conventional weapons; the complete elimination of intermediate- and short-range missiles; the withdrawal of tanks, artillery, and aircraft from Central Europe...not forgetting the change which is being implemented along with this in the structure of our units and the Army as a whole and making it purely defensive in orientation. Each of these problems merits special examination, and there is more than one possible solution for each of them. We must find the optimum one.

I am convinced that it would be intolerable to deprive the Army of the political right which the Constitution has granted to each of our citizens. I consider it not only useful but also an honor for me to report to people's deputies, including military ones. I think that the Committee on Questions of Defense and State Security will help the army by its work. It is perfectly logical that we should have to report to the Supreme Soviet, as it is elected by the people, on how we are fulfilling our duty. It is the duty of a minister, as it is of any official.

The Supreme Soviet must be systematically informed so that it is prepared for competent discussion of all military matters. In the past many things were closed in our country. Everything was decided within a narrow circle. Under such circumstances distortions and mistakes are possible and the range of possibilities for resolving problems is narrowed. In the past all this did nothing to promote the democratic development of military thinking and in the final analysis that had a negative effect on the quality of officers and their freedom of thought, and on training of commanders as individuals. Today we are moving away from excessive secrecy. I think that glasnost strengthens security in that it makes it possible for the broad strata of Soviet people to be involved in strengthening it and consciously making a contribution to maintaining our defense capability.

Yazov, Lizichev Address Political Organs' Chiefs

PM1307103989 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 89 First Edition p 1

[Unnamed own correspondent report: "Political Organs on the Path of Perestroyka"]

[Text] A 3-day meeting of the chiefs of Army and Navy political organs began in the M.V. Frunze Soviet Army Central House in Moscow 11 July. It was opened by Army General D. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister. The report "Primary Political Organs: Experience and Ways of Further Restructuring Their Working Style and Methods as Organs of Political Leadership" was delivered by Army General A. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

An extensive report on the meeting will be published in the next few issues of this newspaper.

Official Explanations for MiG Incident Cited

PM1207095789 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Jul 89 First Edition p 5

[Colonel V. Markushin commentary: "'Unsanctioned' Flight. On the MiG-23M Incident"]

[Text] The statements by representatives of the Air Force and Air Defense Forces at the USSR Foreign Ministry press center attracted Soviet and foreign journalists' interest. The incident, unique and sensational as it was, serves at the same time as another reminder to mankind that great disasters are often caused by what are described as trifles—trifles which we treat with unforgivable complacency in the bustle of every-day life.

The toll of the incident with the MiG-23M fighter, from which the pilot had bailed out and which subsequently flew almost 1,000 km across the skies of Europe, was the life of an 18-year old Belgian youth. And although in the given case the tongue refuses to formulate the banal "fortunately," this is, nonetheless, generally speaking, the truth. After all, the disaster might have been much greater.

So what did actually happen? Lieutenant General of Aviation Ye. Shaposhnikov, deputy commander in chief of the Air Force, told journalists that an emergency situation developed at an extremely low altitude as a result of a partial engine failure which the pilot interpreted as a total failure. In order to make a definitive assessment of what did happen everything will have to be thoroughly checked out, and this will be done by the commission specifically set up for this purpose.

Colonel N. Skuridin, who piloted the aircraft, said in his statement that immediately after take-off there was an abrupt loss of power, with engine speed dropping to 50 percent and the complete disappearance of engine noise. He reported the emergency situation to the flight commander, from whom he received the order to eject. When his parachute opened, the pilot, saw, in his words, the aircraft going down and black smoke. This testimony of Skuridin's, and his claim that he pointed the aircraft toward the sea provided the basis for the Northern Group of Forces Air Force Command to conclude that the MiG had fallen into the sea.

A lot of questions were asked on this subject, of course. But other questions were also asked. For instance, why had the aircraft ended up at an altitude of 12 km? After all, the pilot had ejected soon after take-off. Major General of Aviation A. Ayupov explained that an aircraft can gain speed and altitude after the pilot has ejected because it becomes lighter. It is estimated that this is what happened.

Another question: How was it possible for a fighter aircraft to fly over the territory of Poland and the GDR without being picked up by our air defense systems? In answer to this question, Air Defense representative Lieutenant General V. Stepa explained the complex situation created by the great number of scheduled flights by other aircraft. It was mainly this coincidence of circumstances which, in his opinion, thwarted the prevention of the incident.

At the same time, Lieutenant General Ye. Shaposhnikov focused the attention of those present on another problem. The point is that the Warsaw Pact and NATO do not have a joint mechanism to prevent incidents of this kind which would make it possible to bring down aircraft by mutual agreement. Such a mechanism must be created. This is in the interests of universal security.

Incidentally, there are also some more decisive views on what has happened. I will cite one that was published in the West German newspaper EXPRESS. The newspaper writes: "There is only one conclusion—to disarm, and the faster the better."

Foreign Observers Watch USSR Pacific Exercise

PM1207111189 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jul 89 First Edition p 2

[Captain Second Rank V. Dyubkin report: "Exercise Has Begun"]

[Text] Pacific Fleet—In the northwest part of the Sea of Japan a tactical exercise has begun under the leadership of Admiral G. Khvatov, commander of the Pacific Fleet. It is unusual in that for the first time in the fleet's existence foreign military observers and Soviet and foreign journalists will be present at the exercise.

Invitations were sent to 13 countries in the Asian-Pacific region, including the United States, Canada, Japan, and the Philippines. Four countries agreed to attend the Soviet Navy exercises.

The group of military observers from India is headed by Naval Attache Commodore S.R. Ayyengar [name as transliterated], that from the SRV by Vice Admiral Nguyen Khyun Tkhay [name as transliterated], deputy commander of the navy, that from Indonesia by Rear Admiral Sutedzho [name as transliterated], chief of the navy operations directorate, and that from Malaysia by Commodore Mat-Robi abu Sallakh [name as transliterated], chief of the Navy Intelligence Directorate.

Correspondents are more widely represented. Eight people will work for the Japanese mass media alone. Journalists from Britain, Australia, the United States, the CSSR, and Thailand and, of course, correspondents from Soviet central and local press organs will also cover the exercises.

What will the guests see? Vice Admiral N. Martynyuk, chief of staff of the exercise leadership, answers this question:

"The idea of the bilateral exercise is simple and fully accords with the new Soviet defensive doctrine. The 'northerners' are to escort a convoy of transport ships from Vladivostok to Korsakov, and the 'southerners' are to reveal the nature of the 'northerners'" operations and hinder them as far as possible."

Up to 10,000 men, 20 ships of various classes, and 37 aircraft and helicopters have been enlisted in active operations from the Pacific Fleet. I would particularly note that the guests will be shown the latest equipment.

Essentially the military observers and journalists will witness three tactical episodes: A search for and attack on a submarine by antisubmarine forces and the submarine's counterattack, the repulse of an air attack by a tactical group of surface ships, and the delivery of a missile strike by a surface strike group against the "enemy" in defense of the convoy during the sea crossing.

In addition, the military observers and journalists will be given the opportunity to inspect the ships participating in the exercises and to talk with the personnel of the destroyer "Stoykiy" and the large antisubmarine ship "Tallinn."

Exercise Held 10-12 Jul

LD1207165189 Moscow TASS in English 1637 GMT 12 Jul 89

[Text] Moscow July 12 TASS—Soviet Pacific Fleet forces held an exercise in the north-west of the Sea of Japan on July 10-12 to practice the defence of the Soviet coast.

The training objectives were met and the ships are on their way to their permanent bases.

The excercise was attended by military observers from Vietnam, India, Indonesia and Malaysia, as well as reporters from Australia, Britain, China, the United States, Thailand, Czechoslovakia and Japan.

Exercise Demonstrates Openness

LD1307054189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 12 Jul 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Exercises of forces of the Pacific Fleet were held in Sea of Japan near Vladivostok 10-12 July. Foreign observers and correspondents were invited to them for the first time.

[Begin recording] [Announcer] At the summing-up news conference held today, one of the Japanese journalists stated on behalf of the entire group: If the aim of these exercises was a demonstration of the policy of openness, that aim was fully achieved.

Well, why hide it? That truly was one of the aims of the exercises. After all, in the final analysis, someone had to take the first step in that region where enormous naval arsenals of various countries have built up. I imagine that it was not so simple for our admirals and their subordinates to break down the barriers in their awareness before they decided to open up to foreigners what until quite recently had been kept secret, firmly under lock and key, even from the residents of the closed city of Vladivostok. [video shows foreign military men and press on board Soviet vessel, taking photographs of Soviet warships, including one with the number 531 on its side] Of course, it was not at all the fault of our sailors that not everything turned out as had been supposed, as had been wanted. [video shows Soviet sailors]

[Unidentified correspondent, to sailor looking through binoculars] Can you see anything?

[Sailor] Literally nothing. Nothing is visible because of the fog.

[Correspondent] They have just said that visibility is half a cable, extremely small. I would call this reportage maneuvers in the fog, first because from where I am you can hardly make out the stern and prow of the ship, and second, despite the fairly precise elaboration of tactics and strategy of these exercises, a fairly foggy situation has come about concerning the arrival of the observers. Observers were invited from 15 countries, but they only came from four: India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Vietnam. [Video shows foggy scenes on vessel]

[G.A. Khvatov, commander of the Pacific Fleet] We invite them, but they are (?pressured, saying they will do the reverse) We invite them to come and look and work together with us. Let's bring our positions closer.

[Voice from intercom] Comrade Commander; the U.S. frigate (?Hawk) is at a distance of 80 miles, according to date from the radi [words indistinct] 155.

[Khvatov] I understand. Let's conduct (?mutual) observation and report.

[Voice from intercom] Clear.

[Correspondent] That is not within the framework of your exercises.

[Khvatov] That is not within the framework of our exercises. That was because the Americans decided to send their own ship to observe our exercises instead of coming onto our ships.

[Correspondent] Of course, because of the fog we did not see either the U.S. frigate or the aircraft under the same identification sign, or the other intelligence aircraft, this one Japanese; It was also there. We could only just make out our own craft, even at the time of the exercise battle which took place literally 500 meters from us, no more. It was only the radar that permitted a representation of the true scale of the picture. [video shows foggy seascape, radar screen]

Our foreign colleagues were dreadfully distraught, especially Japanese television, and it was decided to show them the shooting from nearby, even outside the framework of the exercises, but the military observers followed the dynamics of the battle not only visually, but also with instruments, by oblique signs; they are experts at that. They penetrated the esentially defensive nature of our doctrine, namely defense. When they returned to the bay, and suddenly it cleared up, they saw in all its beauty the shores we still must render habitable. In this enormous work, there is room only for defense, only for reliable and firm protection from attack, if only because, as was stated today at the press conference, the naval forces of that same United States in the basin presently exceed ours, [Video shows warships firing, officers showing a map, Far East coastline being approached by ship no. 531] (end recording]

Full-Time Students Released From Armed Forces

PM1207160589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jul 89 Second Edition p 1

[USSR Supreme Soviet resolution: "On the Release from Active Military Service of Certain Categories of Draft Servicemen"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet resolves:

To release from active military service in August-September 1989, in order to allow them to continue their education, draftees drawn from among students at day (full-time) higher educational establishments and drafted into the USSR Armed Forces, border guards, and internal and railroad troops in 1986-1988.

To count in the aforesaid servicemen's statutory period of active military service [only] the actual time spent by them on active military service.

[Signed] M. Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet

Moscow, the Kremlin. 11 July 1989.

Ministry of Defense Newspaper Goes on General Sale

PM1207133589 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jul 89 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Kiosks for the First Time"]

[Text] On 9 July, the newspaper of the Moscow Military District, KRASNIY VOIN, will be released on unrestricted sale in "Soyuzpechat" kiosks in Moscow and a number of other cities in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic for the first time.

It is one of the oldest military publications. The newspaper was founded by a decision of the Moscow provincial party committee in July 1921. Since then it has enjoyed well-deserved popularity among readers. The columns of KRASNIY VOIN deal not just with the troops' living and military training problems, but also with questions connected with the preparation of young people for military service.

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